FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 MARCH 1984

Lebanon

Lebanese-Syrian Summit — President Amin al-Jumayyil held two rounds of talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus on 29 February, Damascus radio reported, and the discussions focused on the Lebanese situation in light of "new developments and the desire to find solutions that preserve Lebanon's Arabism and rights." Damascus radio said the two leaders resumed their talks on 1 March. Although the Phalangist clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported that no statement abrogating the 17 May agreement is expected during Al-Jumayyil's visit, Syrian sources cited by Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon said Al-Jumayyil agreed "in principle" to revoke the accord with Israel. Official Lebanese sources predicted that the Syrian-Lebanese summit will result in the resumption of the national dialogue conference and the formation of a national unity government after consolidating a general cease-fire, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. However, Voice of the Mountain, the clandestine radio of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), expressed the opposition's fears over the possibility of reaching a settlement with Al-Jumayyil "following the massacres he has committed."

Israeli Position — If Lebanon abrogates the agreement with Israel, the latter will act as it wishes in southern Lebanon, making security arrangements without coordinating with the Lebanese, Jerusalem television reported. Syria has indicated to Israel "by various means" that it would be prepared to agree to security arrangements on Israel's northern border with Lebanon if the agreement is cancelled, and Israel may go along with an initiative of that kind, the television said.

Security/Military Situation — A car bomb exploded in the Tallat Al-Khayyat area of west Beirut on 29 February, killing 3 people and wounding 38 others, Beirut radio reported. The Voice of the Mountain and Radio Free Lebanon both reported further exchanges of fire in and around Beirut, with the latter accusing Syria of shelling the Christian sector to increase the political pressure on President al-Jumayyil. A U.S. warship fired several salvos late on 29 February in retaliation for shelling near the U.S. ambassador's residence, according to the Voice of Lebanon.

Syria

The Syrian authorities have reinforced the guard in strategic places in Damascus after foiling an attempted coup in the Army, Amman's *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* reported on 1 March.

PLO-JORDAN

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Amman for Tunis on 1 March after holding talks with King Husayn on the adoption of a joint stance toward the Middle East Crisis, according to "informed source" in Amman cited by Kuwait radio. INA reported earlier that 'Arafat's final discussions with Husayn focused on the need for joint action over the "critical situation" in the occupied Arab territories, on future Jordanian-Palestinian relations, and on the Palestinian right to self-determination. The previous day, 'Arafat accompanied King Husayn on a visit to inspect Jordanian Army and Air Force units, Amman radio noted, and the king told visiting West Bank personalities that Jordan will not bargain over an inch of Palestinian land and continues to believe in the return of all the Israeli-occupied territories, headed by Jerusalem, in return for peace.

Meanwhile, 'Arafat said there are no difficulties in the PLO-Jordanian talks and he expressed confidence that an agreement will be reached, Algiers Voice of Palestine radio reported, citing an 'Arafat interview with the London *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*. An "informed source" cited by Amman's *AD-DUSTUR* disclosed that the forthcoming Jordanian-Palestinian statement will call for an urgent Arab summit conference.

Iran-Iraq War

While admitting that attacking Iranian forces managed to establish "footholds" in the positions of three Iraqi companies in the III Army corps sectorin the southern front, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in remarks reported by INA that Iraqi forces had inflicted "heavy losses" in men and equipment on the attackers. The Iraqi troops are currently "besieging and destroying" the Iranian units, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio added. However, Iranian military sources cited by IRNA described the new offensive as "successful and satisfactory" with one strategic bridge being seized and "heavy casualties" being inflicted on the Iraqis. Two Iraqi battalions and one commando company were "completely destroyed" in the Iranian forces' advance to "new positions" which they are currently reinforcing, Tehran radio reported. Commenting on the Iraqi military spokesman's statement in which he "confessed" that Iran had seized new positions, IRNA said it was an attempt to prevent further Iraqi propaganda "failures."

In the Gulf, seven Iranian naval targets were destroyed in "surprising, effective" attacks against them by Iraqi naval and naval air force units in the Khowr-e Musa area, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio on 1 March. All Iraqi forces returned safely to base. Two Iranian planes were shot down on 1 March, the military spokesman added. These actions affirm Iraq's ability to continue its "siege" of Iranian port areas which it began on 27 February, the spokesman concluded. Iran, however, announced that it had shot down an Iraqi plane on 1 March, bringing to seven the total number of planes downed by Iranian forces since the start of the Khaybar offensive, IRNA announced.

Meanwhile, an Iraqi counterattack to recapture the Majnun area in southern Iraq was "smashed" by Iranian forces on 29 February, Tehran radio reported. The Iranian troops gained "full

control" of the region, killing or wounding "hundreds" of Iraqi soldiers in the process, the radio added. A second Iraqi counter-attack in the Val-Fajr V operational theater in the Changuleh region south of Dehloran was also repelled with "heavy casualties" being inflicted on the Iraqi forces, according to IRNA. A spokesman for the Iranian War Information Headquarters announced that there was no longer any need for foreign reporters to inspect the Khaybar operational area since the Baghdad authorities had issued a "clear confession" to having lost the Majnun area, IRNA said.

An Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 29 February reported that Iranian planes bombed Iraqi forces along the Al-Qurnah-Al-'Amarah road and all returned safely to base. A total of 30 people were killed and 338 wounded by the Iraqi air raid on Bakhtaran on 28 February, IRNA reported. Some 1,000 Iranian troops were wounded by Iraqi chemical bombings of the southern front this week, IRNA added.

The Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique broadcast by Baghdad radio on 29 February reported that known Iranian losses from the 28 February battle in the III Army Corps sector are 5,462 dead and a large number wounded or captured. Iraqi planes safely carried out a total of 212 combat missions on 29 February, some of them "deep" in Iranian territory, the communique added. Press reports cited by INA said that "confirmed information" had been obtained which showed that Iranian forces had used Syrian and Israeli weapons in their recent attacks east of Basra. In another development, "informed sources" in the British Lloyds corporation reportedly said that three oil tankers were hit by Iraqi planes in their attack on Khark Island earlier this week, INA announced.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 042 *1 March 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ on Al-Jumayyil in Syria ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Meets With PLO's Rabbuh ..... C 1
Briefs: New Ambassadorial Appointments ..... C 1

PDRY

Official Talks With SFRY Held in Aden ..... C 1
Talks Conclude ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Spain's Gonzalez Concludes Brief Official Visit ..... C 2
Holds Press Conference ..... C 2
Prince Sa'ud Comments ..... C 3
Foreign Minister Receives Haydala Message ..... C 3

UAE

Ash-Shariqah Ruler Receives Iran's Lavasani ..... C 3
Tehran Reports on Talks ..... C 3
AL-ITTIHAD Views Al-Jumayyil Visit to Syria ..... C 3
Brief: New Envoys Present Credentials ..... C 4

YAR

SFRY President Spiljak, Delegation Depart ..... C 4
Joint Statement Issued ..... C 4

EGYPT

Cabinet Discusses Results of Mubarak Visits ..... D 1
Committee To Follow Developments in Gulf War ..... D 1
Foreign Ministry Delegation Inspects Tabah Area ..... D 1
New Parties Permitted To Publish Newspapers ..... D 1

IRAQ

Iranian Forces Launch Attack, Establish Footholds ..... E 1
Spokesman on Overnight Offensive ..... E 1
Syrian, Israeli Weapons Captured From Iranians ..... E 1
Seven Iranian Naval Targets Destroyed 1 March ..... E 1
Spokesman Denies Sokhoi Plane Downed 1 March ..... E 1
Armed Forces Communique No 1,390 — 29 February ..... E 2
Lloyds Says Three Oil Tankers Hit at Khark Island ..... E 2
CSSR Finance Minister Arrives 28 February ..... E 2

Heads Joint Committee Meeting ..... E 3

JORDAN

'Arafat Concludes Jordanian Talks, Departs ..... F 1
Husayn-'Arafat 1 March Talks *[INA]* ..... F 1
Former Dissidents Arrive *[Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 1 Mar]* ..... F 1
Meet With 'Arafat *[INA]* ..... F 1
'Arafat on Husayn Talks *[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 28 Feb]* ..... F 1
'Arafat Meets Jordanian Editors ..... F 2
Further on Editors' Meeting ..... F 2
Meets Italian Envoy, Others *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... F 2
Palestinian-Jordanian Committee Meets *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... F 2
Further on Joint Delegation *[QNA]* ..... F 3
Khalil al-Wazir to Visit PDRY *[QNA]* ..... F 3
Al-Wazir To Brief YAR *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... F 3
Husayn, 'Arafat at Military Sites ..... F 3
28 Feb 'Arafat Speech *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... F 3
Meets Spanish Prime Minister, Departs *[Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B 1 Mar]* ..... F 5
Further on Gonzalez Meeting ..... F 5
Source Cited on Joint Statement *[Amman AD-DUSTUR 1 Mar]* ..... F 5
Dailies on PLO-Jordan Dialogue ..... F 5
Amman Weekly Reports Failed Syrian Coup *[Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' 1 Mar]* ..... F 6
Spain's Prime Minister Welcomed By 'Ubaydat ..... F 6
Meets With King Husayn *[Madrid]* ..... F 6
Further Details ..... F 6
King Addresses West Bank Functionaries 29 Feb ..... F 7
King Husayn Visits Oil Exploration Site ..... F 7

LEBANON

Reportage, Comment on Al-Jumayyil's Damascus Trip ..... G 1
RFL: Agreement Not Revoked ..... G 1
PSP Radio on Visit ..... G 1
RFL Hints at Syrian Pressure ..... G 1
Junblatt on Damascus Summit *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 1
Explosion Reported in West Beirut 29 February ..... G 1
2 killed, 20 Wounded ..... G 1
Explosion Casualty Figure ..... G 1
Result of Muslim Differences *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Birri, Religious Leaders Denuniciation ..... G 2
Mufti Khalid Urges Unity, Accord Abrogation ..... G 2
Junblatt Arrives in Beirut, Meets Birri *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
Ba'th Official Visits As-Sulh, Makes Statement *[SANA]* ..... G 2
Lebanese Forces Command Makes Appointments *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 2
U.S. Aircraft Resume Overflights 1 Mar *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
VOL Says U.S. Ships Opens Retaliatory Fire ..... G 3
Explosion at American University Causes Damage *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 3
VOAL: Resistance Group Carries Out 3 Operations ..... G 3

SYRIA

Al-Asad Continues Talks With Lebanese President ..... H 1
First Meeting Ends *[Beirut]* ..... H 1
Closed Meeting 29 Feb ..... H 1
Talks Resume 1 March ..... H 1
Pact Abrogation 'Main Topic' *[Beirut]* ..... H 1
Agreement 'in Principle' on Accord *[Indin Radio of Free & Unified Lebanon]* ..... H 2
Al-Asad Chairs Ba'th Party Meeting 29 Feb ..... H 2
Defense Minister Receives Iranian Official ..... H 2
Further Details *[Tehran]* ..... H 2

TISHRIN on Syrian Credibility, U.S. 'Failure' ..... H 2
Commentary Views U.S. Positions in Region ..... H 3
Italian CP Delegation Leaves Damascus 29 Feb ..... H 3
Agreement Signed ..... H 3
Protocols With GDR on Electronics, Communications *[ADN]* ..... H 4
Husayn Readiness To Talk With Israel Noted ..... H 4
Shamir Invitation to King Husayn Reported ..... H 4

ISRAEL

Shamir Reacts to Husayn-'Arafat Talks ..... I 1
Shamir on Abrogation of Lebanese Agreement ..... I 1
Further Remarks ..... I 1
Political Sources on Al-Jumayyil Visit to Damascus ..... I 1
Correspondent Reports Views on Accord Abrogation ..... I 2
Syria May Agree To Border Security Arrangements ..... I 2
Sources Deny Syrian Intention To Reach Arrangement *[MA'ARIV 1 Mar]* ..... I 2
Lebanese Forces Joining South Lebanese Army ..... I 2
Phalangists Joining 'Haddad's Army' ..... I 3
Druze Leader Sends Message to Lebanese Druze ..... I 3
Curfew on South Lebanese Village Lifted ..... I 3
Ben-Elisar Criticizes U.S. on Lebanon Role ..... I 3
Kohen-Orgad Returns From U.S., Comments on Talks ..... I 4
E. Jerusalem Press Debates 'Arafat-Husayn Meeting *['AL HAMISHMAR 1 Mar* ..... I 4
HA'ARETZ Reports U.S. Optimism on Husayn Talks *[HA'ARETZ 1 Mar]* ..... I 4
W. Bank Arabs Present Petition to 'Arafat in Jordan ..... I 4
Editorial Sees Internal Conflict Over Husayn Offer *[THE JERUSALEM POST1 Mar]* ..... I 4
Jerusalem Arabic Interviews AL-FAJR Editor ..... I 5
MA'ARIV Offers Scenario for Autonomy Agreement *[MA'ARIV 29 Feb]* ..... I 6
Bus Stoned Near Halhul, Suspect Detained ..... I 7

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Further on OAU Council of Ministers Session ..... P 1
At-Turayki Addresses Session *[JANA]* ..... P 1
Peter Onu Submits Budget *[Addis Ababa]* ..... P 1
Nigerian Concern Over Dues *[Lagos]* ..... P 1
Continuing Contacts on OAU Sidelines ..... P 2
Mengistu Receives Messages *[Addis Ababa]* ..... P 2
Mengistu, Foreign Ministers Meet *[Addis Ababa]* ..... P 2
At-Turayki Holds Talks *[JANA]* ..... P 2

NORTH AFRICA

LIBYA

'Collapse' of Israeli-Lebanese Agreement Hailed ..... Q 1
Turkish Minister of State Concludes Visit ..... Q 1
Planning Minister Receives Visitor ..... Q 1
Visitor Signs Agreement, Departs ..... Q 1
Army Chief Jabir Receives Lebanese Official ..... Q 1
National Debate on Arab Unity Concludes ..... Q 1

MAURITANIA

'Strict Neutrality' Observed on SDAR Issue ..... Q 2

MOROCCO

Mauritania's Recognition of SDAR Criticized ..... Q 2
Secretary Tazi Scores Move *[L'OPINION 29 Feb]* ..... Q 2

Media Comments on Decision ..... Q 3
Minister Begins African Tour With Hassan Message ..... Q 3
Parliamentary Elections Said Postponed Again *[KUNA]* ..... Q 3

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

USSR Delegation Arrives for Talks 29 Feb ..... R 1

KENYA

Nairobi, Tanzania Sign Trade Agreement ..... R 1
Briefs: Official Relieved of Duties ..... R 1
Departing PRC Envoy
Envoy to UN
Cholera Outbreak

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Canada Grants 24.6 Billion CFA Francs Loan ..... S 1
Tribunal Issues Warrant for Ahidjo's Arrest ..... S 1

WEST AFRICA

MALI

Traore Addresses National Council Session ..... T 1
Traore Receives Sankara Envoy 28 Feb ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Oil Exports Drop 51 Percent Between 1980-1983 ..... T 2
Lagos, Saudi Arabia To Increase Cooperation ..... T 2
Commentary on SWAPO Efforts for Independence ..... T 2
Daily Voices Satisfaction Over Talks With Libya ..... T 3
More on Yola Clashes, Buhari's Visit, Situation ..... T 3
Further on Buhari's Visit ..... T 3
Buhari Returns to Lagos ..... T 4
Vigilantes, Police Fight Fanatics ..... T 4
Relief for Strife Victims ..... T 4
States To Distribute Essential Commodities ..... T 4
University Closed to Avoid Disturbances ..... T 4
Purported Letter From Mohammed Seized in Kano ..... T 5

SENEGAL

Two French Aid Agreements Signed 28 Feb ..... T 5
Briefs: Envoy to Tokyo ..... T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Jorge Interviewed on Accord With S. Africa *[Paris LIBERATION 25-26 Feb]* ..... U 1
Fifth Armed Forces Financial Seminar Closes ..... U 2
UNITA Captures Britons, Others in Kanfunfo Attack ..... U 2
Dos Santos Congratulates New CPSU Chief ..... U 2

LESOTHO

BNP Leader Rejects New Democratic Alliance ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Cites Talks With RSA, Flood Relief ..... U 3
Nonaggression Accord Meeting in RSA 2 Mar ..... U 3
Message From Guinea-Bissau Leader on RSA Talks ..... U 3
Machel Receives Nigerian Envoy, Hails Government ..... U 3
Cooperation Commission With Zambia Ends Session ..... U 4
New Regulation Requires Internal Travel Pass ..... U 4
Agreement on Beira-Machipanda Pipeline Signed ..... U 5
Sofala Leader Marcelino dos Santos Praises FPLM ..... U 5
MNR Kills 80 Eduardo Mondlane Villagers ..... U 5

NAMIBIA

Monitoring Group Advised of SWAPO Activity *[SAPA]* ..... U 5
Security Forces Pursue SWAPO Insurgents *[SAPA]* ..... U 5
British Citizen Detained for Security Reasons *[SAPA]* ..... U 6
Former SWAPO Leader Moved to Namibian Prison *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 6
Bomb Blast on Rail Line; SWAPO Link Inferred *[SAPA]* ..... U 6

SOUTH AFRICA

Joint Commission To Meet on Disengagement ..... U 6
Angola Joint Commission Outlines Tasks ..... U 7
Tourism Delegation Visits Pretoria for Talks *[Mbabane]* ..... U 7
Air Force Chief Hails Fighter Control System ..... U 7
Power Station Explosion; Sabotage Possible ..... U 7

ZAMBIA

Zairean Official Calls for Stronger Ties ..... U 8

ZIMBABWE

Muzenda: Civil Servants Cannot Be Apolitical ..... U 8
Four Acquitted Nkomo Supporters Redetained *[Umtata]* ..... U 8

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ on Al-Jumayyil in Syria

GF010900 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0810 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Manama, 1 Mar (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* today expressed optimism over Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's current visit to Syria. The paper said: This visit is a source of optimism for reconciliation [words indistinct] on the Lebanese crisis which has dominated the Middle East situation.

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ affirmed that this Syrian-Lebanese rapprochement will put an end to Zionist ambitions in Lebanon, after the enemy exploited the weakness of this Arab country to the highest degree and imposed, with U.S. support, an agreement which undermines Lebanon's sovereignty and independence.

In conclusion, the paper emphasized that Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Syria will undoubtedly contribute to ending the Lebanese crisis, particularly after things become clear and return to normal, and after the opposition of the Phalangist leaders, who look to Tel Aviv, has been overcome.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Meets With PLO's Rabbuh

LD291603 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1402 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Feb (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, received at 1300 today at his office in the Ministry of Information Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, member of the PLO Executive Committee.

A comprehensive review of the current Arab conditions and the development of events in the region, primarily the Palestinian question and the situation in Lebanon, were reviewed during the meeting.

Briefs

New Ambassadorial Appointments — The official gazette today carries decrees concerning the appointments of Kuwaiti ambassadors abroad: Ahmad 'Abdallah Ghayth, ambassador to Japan, is transferred to the Foreign Ministry; Muhammad 'Abdallah 'Abbas Abu al-Hasan has been appointed ambassador to Mexico, in addition to his present post as Kuwaiti permanent UN representative; Jasim Muhammad Bursili has been appointed ambassador to Niger, in addition to his post as ambassador in Algeria. [Summary] [Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Feb 84 LD]

PDRY

Official Talks With SFRY Held in Aden

GF291808 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The official talks between the PDRY and SFRY sides began at the Secretariat of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council at 1000 today, and were chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Comrade Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY presidency, who is currently on a 3-day official and friendly visit to our country.

At the beginning of the session, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad warmly welcomed our country's distinguished guest and the delegation accompanying him, pointing out that this visit will contribute to developing and strengthening the relations between our two friendly countries, which serve their joint goals and interests in various political and economic issues and strengthen the role of the Nonaligned Movement in international security, peace issues and international relations, since both countries are members of the Nonaligned Movement.

On his part, Comrade Mika Spiljak expressed his and the accompanying delegation's extreme pleasure in visiting the PDRY, affirming that this visit will open new horizons in bilateral cooperation and other fields, and will enable the two sides to study and review all political developments in the international arena, and promote the interests of the two friendly countries.

During the first session, which was held in a friendly atmosphere, they discussed bilateral cooperation and the means to develop it, the most significant international issues and developments — particularly the situation and the recent incidents in the Middle East region and the two countries' stance toward them — and a number of issues related to the Nonaligned Movement and the strengthening of its role in various international issues.

On the Yemeni side, participating in the talks were 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and foreign affairs minister; 'Abd al-Qadr Ba Jammal, candidate member of the YSP Central Committee and minister of industry; 'Ali Nunassar Muhammad, director of the socialist European department at the Foreign Ministry; Muhammad Haydarah Masdus, PDRY ambassador in Belgrade; and Jamal Salih 'Abd al-Jamil, representative of the socialist countries section of the YSP Central Committee.

On the Yugoslav side, participating in the talks were Comrade Rade Pavlovic, industry minister [title as heard]; Nusret Seferovic, SFRY ambassador to Ethiopia; and Dusan Itvinovic, director of the Middle East department at the Foreign Affairs Ministry [title as heard].

The two sides are scheduled to resume their talks this evening.

A private meeting was held between the two leaders this afternoon, during which they dealt with all the issues which concern the two friendly countries and the means to further develop bilateral relations.

Talks Conclude

GF010730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Official talks between the PDRY and the SFRY concluded this evening.

They were chaired by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency. The talks covered the remaining issues on the agenda which began at the Secretariat of the Supreme People's Council Presidium earlier today.

After the talks, Brother 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and foreign minister, held a press conference at which he stated: The talks were held in a friendly atmosphere, during which the two sides discussed relations between the friendly countries and the means of promoting them in the political, economic, trade and cultural fields. He added that the developing situation in the Middle East, particularly the Palestinian situation and the dangerous situation in Lebanon, was reviewed. The two sides'views were identical in support of the Palestinian struggle under the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative, and the Palestinian people's right to repatriation and self-determination in building their own independent state and the need to preserve PLO unity.

The two sides agreed on the withdrawal of all Israeli forces and the so-called Multinational Forces from Lebanon, and the need to preserve Lebanon's character, as well as the unity of nationalist forces and their various groups.

Concerning the international arena, the two sides reviewed the regrettable Iraq-Iran war. The two sides agreed on the importance of a quick halt to this war, which destroys the human and material resources of the people of Iraq and Iran. It jeopardizes the security of the region's peoples through the intervention of the U.S.-imperialist forces, which are now gathering in the Arabian Sea.

The two sides also discussed the complicated international situation and affirmed the need to reduce international tension and the need to support the peace proposals which lead to detente.

The two sides also praised the Nonaligned Movement's role, and affirmed the need to strengthen the movement and its principles calling for international peace, fighting colonialism and neocolonialism and supporting liberation movements in their struggle for self-determination, independence and freedom.

The president of the SFRY Presidency is scheduled to hold a press conference tomorrow, Thursday, at his residence which will be attended by the media. Documents will also be signed by the two sides tomorrow.

SAUDI ARABIA

Spain's Gonzalez Concludes Brief Official Visit

Holds Press Conference

LD292103 Riyadh SPA in English 1915 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, Feb. 29, SPA — Spanish Premier Felip Gonzalez left here today for Jordan after an official three-day visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the second deputy premier and minister of defence and aviation; Prince Sulman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyadh, and number of other officials.

Prior to his departure, the Spanish guest held a press conference at which he expressed his satisfaction with the outcome of his talks, which he described as constructive and positive. He said the two countries views on issues discussed during the visit were identical, since they were based on a common ground. The Spanish premier said he was impressed with the security and stability being enjoyed by the Kingdom. The premier described relations between the two countries as good and firm.

Besides political issues, he said, the talks also included economic and trade cooperation between the two countries and the need to increase it in the best interests of the two peoples.

Asked about his country's role in the European arena toward the Palestinian issue, Gonzalez said Spain would remain committed to its stance in this regard, and said the European position on the Palestinian issue had changed in favor of the Palestinian people in the past few years. The Spanish premier hailed the Kingdom's efforts in this connection, which made Europe take a more moderate and balanced stance on the issue.

Commenting on the situation in Lebanon, Gonzalez said the division of Lebanon would be a disaster not only for the region but also the world as a whole, and his country would do its utmost to stop this act because the Lebanese people should be given the chance to decide their destiny without any foreign intervention.

Asked whether he will meet with the Palestine Liberation Organization's chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, he said his schedule does not include a meeting with 'Arafat, but if he finds a chance he will meet with the Palestinian leader.

Asked about his country's position on the latest escalation of the Iran-Iraq war, Gonzalez expressed his country's grave concern for the escalation, which he said poses a threat to international peace. The Spanish premier hailed Iraq's repeated desire to achieve an end to this war.

Responding to a question on Spain's stance on the Western Sahara issue, Gonzalez said Spain supports resolutions of the U.N. and the Organisation of African Unity in this connection.

Prince Sa'ud Comments
LD292118 Riyadh SPA in English 1217 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, Feb, 29, SPA — Official talks between His Majesty King Fahd and the visiting Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez have covered all issues relating to the Arab region and all aspects of relations between the two countries, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said here today.

Speaking at a press conference, Prince Sa'ud said the two countries' views on issues discussed during the visit were identical. He said Gonzalez' visit to the Kingdom would boost Saudi-Spanish relations at all levels in the best interests of the two countries in particular, and the Arab nation in general.

Replying to questions put forward by the press, Prince Sa'ud said the talks between the two sides had covered all international issues and bilateral relations. The talks dealt with the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Palestinian issue, the Lebanese crisis and the Iran-Iraq war, he added. The common analysis of these issues will help the two countries when they deal with them at bilateral or international levels, Prince Sa'ud said.

He described the Saudi-Spanish relations as firm and based on firm grounds. We expect more cooperation from Spain, which has a historical role in the European and international arenas, he added.

Prince Sa'ud accused Israel of hampering peace efforts in the region since it had showed no desire for peace, nor pulled out from the occupied Arab territory. He said the unilateral peace treaty between Israel and Egypt had not led to an Israeli recognition of Palestinian rights nor its withdrawal from Arab territories. The treaty should make Israel feel more safe and secure, but contrary to that it had in fact increased its appetite to attack and occupy more Arab land, he added.

Foreign Minister Receives Haydala Message
LD292104 Riyadh SPA in English 1925 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, Feb 29, SPA — Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal received here today Mauritanian Mines and Energy Minister Mohamed Fadl Durah, who conveyed to him a message from Mauritanian President Mohamed Ould Haydala. The contents of the message were not disclosed.

Meanwhile, Prince Sa'ud also received the Brazilian ambassador to the Kingdom.

UAE

Ash-Shariqah Ruler Receives Iran's Lavasani
GF291446 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 29 Feb (WAKH) — Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Ash-Shariqah, received here at noon today Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, the Iranian Foreign Ministry's general director for political affairs, who is currently visiting Ash-Shariqah. The meeting was attended by Mahmud Sadat Madar-Shahi, Iranian ambassador to the UAE.

Tehran Reports on Talks
LD291759 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The head of the Arab and African Department at the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who is currently on a visit to the UAE, met today with that country's minister of state for foreign affairs, as well as with the ruler of Ash-Shariqah, Shaykh Sultan ibn Muhammad al-Qasimi.

In the course of these meetings, also attended by the Islamic Republic's ambassador to the UAE, the Foreign Ministry department head asserted the Islamic Republic's unswerving conviction to annihilate the Saddam Husayn regime, and alluded to the arrival in the region of the U.S. fleet by saying: The Islamic Republic of Iran will stand firmly in the face of American measures in support of the declining Baghdad regime, which seek to boost Husayn's morale.

Stating that the Islamic Republic of Iran's aims also include friendship and fraternity toward the region's states, he stressed the need for the expansion of relations.

On their part, UAE officials also expressed the desire for bilateral relations as well as for their expansion. As for the question of the war and the presence of America in the region, they said: We oppose the presence of foreign forces in our region. We assure you that the UAE will not allow the creation of a situation in its territory which might constitute action against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In conclusion, the situation in Lebanon and the disgraceful defeat suffered by U.S. policy in the Middle East were discussed.

AL-ITTIHAD Views Al-Jumayyil Visit to Syria
GF010652 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0615 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 1 Mar (WAM) — In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* said: The United States made a mistake in its attempt to ignore the Syrian role in Lebanon, and it paid a high price for that attempt.

AL-ITTIHAD expressed the hope that the visit which President Amin al-Jumayyil is making to Damascus will be a new starting point "which will prove the Arab influence in Lebanon, and that the Arab role is ultimately the decisive role which makes the real decision." Despite the fact that the Lebanese president's visit to Damascus has in itself many positive meanings and implications, it remains that only concrete results will determine events in the next stage, the paper added.

AL-ITTIHAD warned against illusions of expecting a decisive solution overnight. "The situation in Lebanon is too complicated to be solved by pressing a magic button; Lebanon has been the

center of conflict between conflicting forces ideologically and practically in the Middle East. The conflict is still there and the road is long," the paper concluded.

Briefs

New Envoys Present Credentials — Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, received today the credentials of Mamadou Saliou Sylla, the first Guinean ambassador to the state, whose permanent residence will be in Jidda. Rashid 'Abdallah also received the credentials of Suwat Seniwong Na Ayutthaya, the first Thai ambassador to the state, whose permanent residence will be in Jidda. The minister of state for foreign affairs also received the credentials of Matiya Ngalande, the first Zambian ambassador to the state, whose permanent residence will be in Jidda. [Text] [Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Feb 84 GF]

YAR

SFRY President Spiljak, Delegation Depart

GF291052 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Excerpt] SFRY President Mika Spiljak and his accompanying delegation today left San'a'.

He was officially seen off at San'a' International Airport by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress; senior state and government officials; and chiefs of the accredited diplomatic missions in San'a'.

Joint Statement Issued

GF291050 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Report on joint statement issued in San'a' at the conclusion of the visit of SFRY President Mika Spiljak to San'a' on 28 February — read by announcer]

[Text] A statement was issued yesterday on the official, friendly visit by Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY Presidency, to the YAR, and on his talks with Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress.

The statement noted that the talks focused on an exchange of views — between Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and SFRY President Mika Spiljak — on matters dealing with bilateral relations and the possibility of developing them. The most important international issues which the world is experiencing were also reviewed, particularly the serious situation in the Middle East and the role of the Nonaligned Movement in attaining security, peace and prosperity.

The two sides expressed their conviction that bilateral relations are expanding. They also expressed a readiness to undertake measures to develop these relations in various economic and scientific fields, in addition to the technical, cultural, educational, health and media fields. They also emphasized the need to hold further extensive contacts on the various levels. They then exchanged views in order to attain this goal.

While reviewing the current international issues, the two sides expressed their concern over the deterioration of the international situation, which is dominated by serious incompetence among the coalitions, by a lack of confidence among the superpowers, by an increase in the tendency to resort to the policy of power, by pressures, by the arms race and by the discord on solutions dealing with major current political and economic problems.

The two sides expressed their concern over the latest developments in the situation in the Middle East, which constitutes a danger not only to the security and stability of the region, but also to the security and safety of the entire world. They asserted that this jeopardizes any possibility of attaining a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem, which requires the withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Arab territories and the recovery of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination and establishing their independent state on the homeland's soil.

The two sides agreed that it is essential that the PLO, being the sole and the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, take part on an equal footing [with others] in solving the Middle East issue. They also stressed the need to preserve the unity and independence of the PLO in the process of [word indistinct] in the world. The two sides also stressed the need to have the Lebanese people attain their sovereignty and national security, which can come true by ensuring, before anything else, the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanese territories.

The two sides paid special attention to the situation in the Gulf, and the Iraq-Iran war. They expressed support for all the initiatives which are designed to put an end to this war by peaceful means, and for tackling all the differences between the two neighborly countries through negotiations based on the principles of the policy of the nonaligned countries, on the UN Charter and on respect for the rights and the legitimate demands of the two sides.

The statement also noted the need to start exerting further efforts by the nonaligned countries, in particular, in order to reach a just and durable solution to this dispute. The two sides expressed their conviction that the Nonaligned Movement — under the currently grave international situation — constitutes the only alternative for the policy of international coalition, and that it is the sound foundation for solving the problems that endanger the peace, security, and independent development of all the countries.

They also noted the importance of the movement — being an element independent from all the other coalitions — reaffirming its genuine principles and the need to reinforce its unity and activities. They also noted that the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi opened new and definite horizons for

the role of the Nonaligned Movement and international communities as a whole in order to solve the international political and economic problems, in accordance with the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the UN Charter.

The two sides then referred to the development of international economic relations that contravene the interests of the developing countries. They stressed the need for the nonaligned countries and other developing countries to exert coordinated efforts in order to attain a new international economic system. The two sides expressed their support for the establishment of peace regions in the sensitive regions in the world, which will serve toalleviate tension in international relations. The two sides also stressed the persistent need to keep the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea away from the rivalry of the superpowers and from the military presence of the foreign powers. They also supported the proposal to proclaim the Mediterranean an area of peace and cooperation. The SFRY president also noted the political and economic achievements attained by the YAR under the leadership of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

At the end of the visit, the SFRY president expressed his gratitude to the brother president and to the YAR people for the cordial reception and the hospitality accorded to him and to the SFRY delegation. He invited the brother president to visit the SFRY which the brother president accepted. Salih expressed gratitude for the invitation and indicated that a date will be set.

Cabinet Discusses Results of Mubarak Visits

NC291931 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] At today's meeting under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the Cabinet discussed the political and economic results of President Husni Mubarak's recent visits to the United States, France, Morocco, and some African states. The Cabinet decided to take steps to ensure the implementation of what had been agreed upon during the visits regarding [words indistinct] in the fields of cooperation.

Safwat ash-Sharif, minister of state for information, said after the meeting that the Cabinet reviewed a report in this regard submitted by Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. In the report, 'Ali pointed out that President Mubarak's discussions in Washington were aimed at pushing the peace process, at activating the Palestinian issue without waiting for a solution to the situation in Lebanon, and at expounding Egypt's view on a U.S.-Palestinian dialogue.

On the economic front, the discussions resulted in securing U.S. military aid worth $1.175 billion in grants. The discussions also secured economic aid.

President Husni Mubarak's visit to France resulted in encouraging Palestinain-Jordanian dialogue and in bolstering the Egyptian-French plan to establish peace in the Middle East.

President Mubarak's visit to Morocco was an expression of the fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries. The tour by President Mubarak to four African states resulted in bolstering African cooperation and cooperation between Egypt and each of these countries in all domains, as well as in preparing for the African summit conference that will be held in Conakry in May.

Safwat ash-Sharif added that the Cabinet then reviewed a report submitted by Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha in which he referred to the factors of internal stability and to the efforts that were exerted recently to combat currency smuggling operations.

Ash-Sharif added that during the meeting the Cabinet approved the projects of the third year of the 5-year plan. Investments in these projects have reached about 6.990 billion Egyptian pounds, in which both the public and private sectors are participating.

Committee To Follow Developments in Gulf War

NC291136 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1050 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Feb (MENA) — MENA has learned that Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has instructed the Foreign Ministry's Political Standing Committee to be in a state of continuous session in order to follow the developments in the Iraq-Iran war and its political and military repercussions.

It is to be recalled that this committee is made up of a number of foreign ministers' deputies and several directors of the political departments at the Foreign Ministry.

Foreign Ministry Delegation Inspects Tabah Area

NC291207 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 29 Feb (MENA) — MENA has learned that Deputy Foreign Minister Ambassador Ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Hamid is currently visiting the Tabah area to inspect the area's installations. He is accompanied by a delegation comprised of Nabil al-'Arabi, director of the legal department at the Foreign Ministry; Major General Majdi Ahmad Sulayman, governor of southern Sinai; and Major General Muhsin Hamdi, assistant chief of staff.

New Parties Permitted To Publish Newspapers

NC291546 Cairo MENA in English 1500 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, Feb 29 (MENA) — The newly established New al-Wafd and Al-Ummah parties will have their own mouthpieces.

At its meeting here today, the Higher Press Council has approved applications for the publication of nine newspapers and periodicals.These include one for each of the Al-Wafd and Al-Ummah parties, and a literary and critical magazine to be published by the leftist Unionist Grouping Party.

The council has also agreed to appoint former MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY Board Chairman Muhammad 'Abd al-Jawad as press expert for a one-year term. Al-Jawad retired from his post on February 18, and was replaced by Mustafa Najib.

Iranian Forces Launch Attack, Establish Footholds

JN010701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0640 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — Units of the Iraqi III Army Corps east of Basra have confronted an Iranian attack and clashed with the attacking forces in fierce battles. An Iraqi military spokesman announced this morning that the Iranians began their attack last night and that they [the Iranians] have suffered heavy losses in men and equipment.

The spokesman said that the attacking forces established footholds in positions of three Iraqi companies on the frontline of the defense positions of the III Army Corps. The spokesman said that units of the III Army Corps are currently besieging the Iranian units in order to destroy them. He said details of this battle will be announced later today.

Spokesman on Overnight Offensive

JN010719 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. On the night of 29 February/1 March 1984, the Iranian enemy attacked our units in the III Army Corps sector. Our brave units confronted the enemy forces and clashed with them in fierce battles during which the enemy suffered heavy losses in men and equipment. The enemy managed to gain only a foothold in the positions of three companies on the forefront of our defensive positions on the left flank of the III Army Corps. The heroic III Army Corps units are currently besieging and destroying the enemy units.

We will announced further details later.

God is great. Victory and glory is for great Iraq. Defeat and ignominy will be the lot of Iraq's suspect enemies.

[Dated] 1 March 1984.

Syrian, Israeli Weapons Captured From Iranians

JN010750 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — Press reports here said today that the Iranian forces used Syrian and Israeli weapons in their recent attacks east of Basra. The newspaper *ATH-THAWRAH* said that it had obtained confirmed information that Iranian forces used Syrian and Israeli weapons which were identified after they had been captured following the Iranian forces' defeat in this area.

The paper pointed out that the Syrian weapons were produced in the Syrian war industry factories and are marked: Jim 'Ayn Sin [letters for SAR, Syrian Arab Republic]. The Zionist weapons were Israeli-made Uzi-type machine guns. The paper also said that a quantity of these weapons was removed to the rear. Samples are being exhibted at the east Tigris command's operations headquarters.

Seven Iranian Naval Targets Destroyed 1 March

JN010934 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0857 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. If it were our will, we could drown them; then would there be no helper to hear their cry, nor could they be delivered. [Koranic verse]

This morning a number of enemy naval targets were discovered in the Khowr-e Musa area, northeast of the Arab Gulf. The targets were intending to enter the Bandar-e Khomeyni port. Our heroic naval force and its daring Air Force intercepted them and carried out surprising, effective attacks against them. As a result, seven enemy naval targets were destroyed. Flames were seen on all sides of these targets and they were seen sinking in the waters of the Gulf. All of our naval units and Navy Air Force planes, safely and triumphantly, returned to their bases. praise be to God.

On another level, at 0938 today our daring Air Force planes clashed with enemy aircraft in a dogfight and were able to shoot down an enemy F-4 fighter plane in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. The enemy plane was seen exploding in the air and falling in flames in the above-mentioned area. Our ground resistance and air defense forces shot down another enemy fighter plane of the Phantom type when it attempted to advance toward our positions in Ash-Shib area at 0814 today. The plane was seen falling in flames inside Iranian territory.

Thus, our naval and air forces affirm their great ability to continue their siege around Iranian ports, which, according to the Armed Forces General Command spokesman, began on 27 February, and to inflict heavy losses on the enemy forces in the sea and in the air similar to its heavy losses on the land. Victory comes from God.

[Dated] 1 March 1984.

Spokesman Denies Sokhoi Plane Downed 1 March

JN011210 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1155 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Mar (INA) — An Iraq military spokesman today refuted Iranian claims that an Iraqi Sokhoi plane was shot down this morning in a dogfight over the Gulf waters.

In a statement to INA this afternoon, the spokesman said that the Iraqi planes, which participated in destroying seven Iranian naval targets and downing two Iranian fighter planes this morning, returned safely to base.

The spokesman said that after each successful Iraqi operation, the Iranian regime resorts to such claims.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,390 — 29 February
JN291755 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,390 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 29 February 1984]

[Text] in the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Whenever the criminal Khomeyniites continue their unjust aggression on Iraq's lofty land and heroic people, they will find the swords of the Iraqis, owners of right and honor, both brandished and sharp and waiting to cut off the rotten heads and inflict on the invaders further losses, woes, and destruction. The results are as follows:

1. Our valiant units in the operational sector of east Tigris continued their violent pounding of the enemy units, troop concentrations, and defeated remnants, inflicting further losses in personnel, weapons, and equipment. Many of the defeated enemy troops were also captured.

2. Our valiant forward units pounded the enemy positions and both troop and vehicular concentrations in the areas opposite our positions in the III Army Corps sector, causing a number of dead and wounded. Our brave combat patrols managed to capture a number of the enemy personnel opposite our forward units' positions in the same sector. The known losses the enemy sustained during yesterday's battle in the heroic III Army Corps sector amounted to 5,462 dead; a large number either wounded or captured; a number of tanks, armored personnel carriers, vehicles, weapons, and equipment destroyed; and a large number of enemy weapons and equipment seized intact.

3. Formations of our capable Air Force aircraft today continued their intensive and daring raids on the enemy positions and defeated troop concentrations opposite our forward units's positions in the operational sectors of the III and IV Army Corps and east Tigris, scoring direct and effective hits. Other formations of our fighter planes attacked the enemy concentrations and units deep inside its territory, inflicting massive losses in personnel, weapons, and equipment. All our fighter planes returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our aircraft carried out 212 combat missions.

4. Our bold helicopter gunships today carried out successful attacks on the enemy units and concentrations of both troops and vehicles in the operational sectors of the III and IV Army Corps and east Tigris. They dealt them strong blows and set fire to the enemy positions, weapons, and vehicles, and destroyed 50 enemy boats. All our helicopter gunships returned safely to base after carrying out 170 combat missions today, praise be to God.

5. The attack which a force of our valiant units launched against the enemy units in the central sector on the 27th of this month, February, resulted in inflicting on the enemy the following known losses that have been counted: 105 killed; a large number wounded; and 4 vehicles, 4 infantry positions, 1 106-mm gun, and 2 antiaircraft machine guns destroyed.

6. Our valiant forward units dealt a strong blow to the enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the IV Army Corps sector, and to the enemy concentrations deep inside its positions, scoring effective hits. A number of the enemy personnel were captured and two infantry positions were destroyed elsewhere in the same sector.

7. Two were killed, several others wounded, and five infantry positions, two vehicles — one of which was loaded with personnel — and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

8. Yesterday evening and today, the clique of evil and crime continued to shell Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, Ash-Shihabi, Darband-i Khan, and (Mawt) with heavy artillery. The savage enemy shelling resulted in the wounding of three civilians, the destruction of two houses, and damage to one house and one civilian car in Basra; the martyrdom of one citizen, wounding of one child, destruction of three houses, damage to six houses, and the destruction of one elementary school in Khanaqin; and the destruction of one house and one shop in Darband-i Khan. It also led to the martyrdom of 6, wounding of 12 others, and destruction of 1 house in (Mawt).

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 February 1984

Lloyds Says Three Oil Tankers Hit at Khark Island
JN291812 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] London, 29 Feb (IAN) — Today's Lloyds bulletin cites informed sources in the British Lloyds Corporation as saying that three oil tankers were hit by Iraqi fighter planes near Iran's Khark Island. The Iraqi Armed Froces General Command announced the day before yesterday that Iraqi aircraft bombed the oil tankers anchored in the Khark Island area.

CSSR Finance Minister Arrives 28 February
JN290704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2115 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Feb (INA) — CSSR Finance Minister Leopold Ler arrived here tonight at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq. Ler said he will preside over his country's delegation to the meetings of the Iraqi-CSSR joint committee for scientific, technological, and economic cooperation, which will be held in Baghdad tomorrow.

He added that he will discuss with Iraqi officials bilateral relations and the ways of promoting them and following up what has been implemented on the agreements concluded between them in the various fields.

Heads Joint Committee Meeting

JN291628 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Feb (INA) — Meetings of the sixth session of the Iraqi-CSSR joint committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation began here today. The committee will discuss a host of issues related to the promotion of bilateral economic, trade, and technical cooperation.

Three subcommittees specializing in trade exchange, economic and industrial cooperation, and scientific and technical cooperation emerged from the meetings.

Planning Minister Dr Samal Majid Faraj headed the Iraqi side, while CSSR Finance Minister Leopold Ler, who arrived here last night, headed the Czechoslovak side.

'Arafat Concludes Jordanian Talks, Departs

Husayn-'Arafat 1 March Talks

JN010958 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0942 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 1 Mar (INA) — The final session of talks between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides under King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat began here today. INA learned today that the talks centered on joint action and swift moves to face the critical situation in the occupied Arab territories, which are now in danger of being lost due to Arab disunity. Talks also dealt with the future Jordanian-Palestinian relations and the Palestinian right of self-determination. It was announced here that a joint Jordanian-Palestinian statement will be issued today at the conclusion of the final session of talks between the two sides. The statement will include points agreed on by the two sides.

Former Dissidents Arrive

JN011049 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 1 Mar 84 p 28

["Damascus Dissidents in Amman" — *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* headline]

[Text] Some dissidents who had opposed 'Arafat's leadership arrived in Amman yesterday and expressed allegiance to Yasir 'Arafat's leadership.

Meet With 'Arafat

JN011051 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Amman, 1 Mar (INA) — The Jordanian weekly newspaper *AKHBAR AL-USBU'* says today that a number of dissidents against the Palestinian revolution who collaborated with the Syrian and Libyan regimes to strike at the revolution arrived in Amman recently in order to express their loyalty to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The INA correspondent in Amman has learned that Yasir 'Arafat actually met with some dissidents who arrived in Amman last night. The PLO office in Amman preferred not to disclose the names of those dissidents in order to protect their families who are still in Damascus.

'Arafat on Husayn Talks

PM291125 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 28 Feb 84 p 1

[PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat interview with *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in Amman on 27 February, reported by 'Arafat Hijazi]

[Text] Amman — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said with a confident tone that "we will reach an agreement with Jordan and we shall sign it. The agreement will be blessed by the Palestinians, the Arab brothers, and all our friends in the world."

When I met with 'Arafat in his office at the guest palace in Amman yesterday (Monday) morning he was surrounded by a number of his advisers and aides and was signing telegrams and letters to PLO offices abroad. He then cleared his office of those present in order to talk to *ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* for a whole hour while a large number of officials and personalities which had come to see him from the West Bank filled the guest palace's lounge.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked Mr 'Arafat about the possibility of reaching an agreement with Jordan, his visit to Cairo, and the dissidents' movement and its effect on the future of the PLO. Relaxing in his chair, he said: There are those who spread the idea that the PLO is experiencing a crisis. Yes, the PLO was in crisis but today we have been able to regain our health, strength, and position. We have thwarted all the conspiracies and I can say that we have defeated them. All the Zionist, U.S., and imperialist forces have tried to exploit the dissident movement in order to liquidate and wipe out the PLO. But thanks to our revolutionary consciousness and our people's support inside and outside the occupied territories we have smashed the conspiracy. Today in the PLO we are more united than ever before. As for the phenomena of positive opposition within the PLO, they are proof of our consciousness, belief in democratic reform, and sound health. With regard to Jordan we are one people here and our cause is one and the same. We have begun talks with His Majesty King Husayn in a spirit of brotherhood, understanding, and of facing up to responsibility at this critical stage in which Zionist dangers to our cause and to the area are growing. We are now discussing the means to confront the common danger and ways to support our people's steadfastness in the occupied territories. We are also discussing ways to realize a united Arab stand in sharing responsibilities. We shall reach and sign an agreement; there is nothing in Jordan to prevent such an agreement. With regard to a confederal unity there is no problem in this. Jordan has approved it and so has the PNC. But what matters to us at this stage is that we are facing a common Zionist danger. We are now coming to the decisive stage and we must pass this stage successfully just as we have passed all the previous adverse and conspiratorial stages.

Abu 'Ammar stressed that there are no obstacles in the Palestinian-Jordanian talks and that an agreement will be reached, but it will not be the agreement desired by Shamir, Reagan, and the enemies of the cause and those who conspire against it.

Speaking about his visit to Cairo, he said: Egypt is not responsible for the As-Sadat agreement. It was Husni Mubarak who a few weeks ago stood up in the White House and made a statement before President Reagan recognizing the Palestinian people's rights and the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It was as if he was saying to Reagan, Israel, and the whole world: From this very place where the Camp David agreement was signed I declare the abrogation of this agreement and I also declare that the PLO exists, is strong, and there is no solution without it.

Abu 'Ammar wondered: How can Egypt remain isolated from the Arabs while it is sponsoring the Palestinian cause and all the Arab causes better than certain countries. We will not forget

Egypt's commendable stands during the seige of Beirut and of Tripoli.

Abu 'Ammar once again reiterated his optimism regarding the coming stage, the stage of agreement and coordination with Jordan, of supporting our people's steadfastness in the occupied territories, and of restoring at least a minimum of conciliation among the Arab countries. He said: The PLO today reassumes its place on all Palestinian, Arab, and international levels while carrying the torch of struggle with the strong arms of its fighters, the will of its faithful cadres, and the support of all the nationalist forces.

'Arafat Meets Jordanian Editors

JN292156 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that the Israeli occupation authorities are pursuing their daily policy of devouring Arab land, building settlements, and plotting against holy shrines. This came during his meeting today with the editors in chief and editors of the Jordanian press. During this meeting, 'Arafat said that this topic requires the whole Arab nation to shoulder responsibility equal in magnitude to the enormity of the conspiracy. He added that the current Jordanian-Palestinian talks are a Jordanian-Palestinian attempt to confront the cultural challenge the Arab nation is facing. He reiterated that these talks aim at establishing the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship on fraternal and unified bases that rise to the standard of challenges.

'Arafat added: We seek through this Jordanian-Palestinian relationship to work continuously by all means to restore the land. We will not relinquish Jerusalem, nor will his majesty brother king Husayn. He reiterated that King Husayn and Jordan have the same feelings for Jerusalem that he and the Palestinians have. He added that his current visit to Jordan is one of the most important visits that he is conducting, regardless of all the attempts of certain external parties. He said: Our objective is to formualte a unified concept for a unified stand toward the occupied territory and the international stand.

Further on Editors' Meeting

JN010711 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Amman — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that the Israeli occupation authorities are pursuing their daily policy of devouring Arab land, building settlements, and plotting against holy shrines. This came during his meeting last night with the editors in chief and editors of the Jordanian press. 'Arafat denied that any political initiatives have been presented. He said: The objective of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks is joint and unified Jordanian-Palestinian action aimed at achieving a joint, future march. 'Arafat noted that all attempts presented either inside or outside the United Nations have always been faced with U.S. intransignece and bias in favor of Israel. Answering a question on the Camp David accords, Yasir 'Arafat said that these accords do not exist any more, and that the U.S. President's presentation of a new initiative is an admission that the Camp David accords have ended.

'Arafat said that the PLO is against the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said that Iraq has responded to all calls and initiatives aimed at achieving peace. 'Arafat asserted that the Palestinians reject any occupation of any part of the Iraqi territories.

On his visit to Cairo, 'Arafat said that he implemented a resolution adopted by the PNC to come closer to Egypt as it goes away from the Camp David accords. He noted Egypt's stand on the Palestinian revolution during its siege in Tripoli. He said that at the time when President [title as heard] al-Qadhdhafi threatened to storm and destroy Tripoli, President Mubarak supported the Palestinian revolution and helped it to leave the city under Egyptian-French protection.

'Arafat noted the existence a conspiracy to divide the Lebanese territory and people, and to turn it into petty states. He said that this situation will have negative repercussions on the Palestinian cause as weel as the other Arab issues.

Meets Italian Envoy, Others

JN291800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar , chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, is continuing his visit to Jordan and his meetings with several officials and political figures in Jordan as well as a number of national Palestinian figures. These meetings take place within the framework of the Palestinian -Jordanian relations and their strengthening in order to support and bolster the steadfastness of the masses of our Palestinian people inside the occupied homeland and to confront Zionist challenges and Israeli fascist and terrorist measures. This is in addition to confronting Israel's attempts to vacate, settle in, and Judaize the Arab land.

Brother commander Abu 'Ammar yesterday received a Canadian parliamentary delegation that is currently visiting Jordan. He explained to this delegation Israel's violation of Palestinians' rights and its arbitrary practices which aim at expropriating the land and vacating it of its inhabitants. Abu 'Ammar also received the Italian ambassador in Amman. During the meeting, the ambassador gave him a message from the Italian Government.

Palestinian-Jordanian Committee Meets

JN291818 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee to bolster the steadfastness of our Palestinian people in the occupied territory held a meeting in Amman last night. During this meeting, the committee discussed the means to bolster the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and prepared a report to be presented to those attending the Palestinian-Jordanian talks currently taking place in the Jordanian capital.

Further on Joint Delegation

GF291930 Doha QNA in Arabic 1840 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Amman, 29 Feb (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Amman has learned that Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, whose formation was decided during the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, to explain the deteriorating situation in the occupied Arab territories to the Arab officials includes Mr Khalil al-Wazir, Fatah Central Committee member; and Dr Jawad al-'Anani, Jordanian industry minister.

Khalil al-Wazir to Visit PDRY

GF291951 Doha QNA in Arabic 1920 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Amman, 29 Feb (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Amman has learned that Mr Khalil al-Wazir (Abu Jihad), Fatah Central Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces, will visit the PDRY following the conclusion of Mr 'Arafat's present visit to Jordan. The correspondent also learned that the Palestinian official will meet in Aden with the representatives of a number of Palestinian organizations within the framework of the dialogue with the Central Committee of the Fatah movement. He will also meet with PNC Cairman Mr Khalid al-Fahum to discuss preparations for convening the next session of the Council in Algiers.

Al-Wazir To Brief YAR

JN291808 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, left Amman for San'a' today on a short visit to the YAR during which he will meet with a number of Yemeni officials and Palestinian revolution cadres. Our correspondent learned today that during this visit the revolution's officials in the YAR will be acquainted with the development of events in the Palestinian arena and the results of the current talks between the Jordanian Government and the PLO.

Husayn, 'Arafat at Military Sites

JN291636 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn, supreme commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, accompanied Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on a visit to a military position this morning. The supreme commander and Yasir 'Arafat saw a tactical exercise carried out by one of the Royal Armored 3d Division's formations. At the beginning of the exercise, the division commander briefed the audience on the formation's combat preparedness and on the weapons and equipment used in the exercise, including the Khalid ibn Al-Walid tank. The division commander said: This tank ranks among the world's best modern tanks in terms of movement, firing, accuracy, and control equipment. He added that this division, like the rest of our Armed Forces' units, takes pride in the modern weapons which his majesty the supreme commander is seeking to make available for the Armed Forces. He said that the Khalid tank is now in the hands of men who know its value and know how to use it and take care of it. The groups participating in the exercise then advanced to the stationary targets. They engaged these targets and carried out the duty entrusted to them with high accuracy and skill.

The supreme commander and Yasir 'Arafat then visited an Air Force base, where they were received by the commander of the Jordanian Royal Air Force, the commander of the base, and several officers. They also inspected the various sections of the base and were briefed by its officers on the duties of these sections. They saw an emergency takeoff by the pilots of this base. His Majesty the supreme commander and Yasir 'Arafat were accompanied on this tour by Ahmad 'Ubaydat, prime minister and defense minister; Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Staff Lieutenant General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; and several high-ranking Jordanian officers.

28 Feb 'Arafat Speech

JN290834 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] This morning brother commander Abu 'Ammar visited the camp of the Badr forces in Jordan — forces belonging to the Palestine Liberation Army. At the camp, he witnessed maneuvers carried out by these forces. Afterwards he met with the command, officers, and soldiers of the Badr forces and delivered a speech in which he tackled the recent developments in the Palestine question. The following is the text of Abu 'Ammar's speech as reported by our correspondent there:

[Begin recording] A celebration was held at noon today at the camp of the Badr forces of the Palestine Liberation Army in Jordan on the occasion of the inception of the Palestinian revolution. After a parade of some of the regiments of these forces, the brother commander made the following speech:

O comrades in arms and in the trenches at this bad Arab time: I am proud of you and extremely happy that we are celebrating here in the land of Jordan where our hero Badr forces stand. We are celebrating with you the 19th anniversary of the inception of the revolution and together are witnessing a new year in the history of our blessed revolution. It is not a coincidence that we, this year and at this present difficult time, are celebrating here the 19th anniversary of our long revolutionary march. When we were besieged in Beirut I called for you, and you immediately responded to share the stand of your people and the heroic Lebanese people. You participated in recording a historic epic with letters of light and fire — an epic of the longest Arab-Israeli war. It is also no coincidence that when brother Abu Jihad was besieged in Al-Biqa' you rushed to his side. The Badr forces belong to the revolution and the people.

We are celebrating today after talks yesterday and the day before with King Husayn and Jordanian officials to enable us to walk together at this fateful and historical phase and during these

important moments in the life of our Palestinian-Jordanian march — even in the life of our Arab nation. What we are facing now is not only a danger to Palestine or Jordan but a danger to the whole Arab nation. We are holding talks in order to lay down a joint and unified base by which we can walk together toward Jerusalem. Yes, we have held these rounds of talks, and the Palestinian-Jordanian march will proceed.

My brothers, while I stand before you I can see these good faces with whom I stood in Beirut and in Al-Biqa' in defense of your revolution and Arab nation. We are engaged in a savage battle aimed at wiping out your revolution and the PLO off the political map. I remind you of the beginning of this battle on 4 June 1982, and which still continues. I remind you Sharon boasted that within in 3 to 5 day he would gather us up as prisoners of war in Ansar and other prisons. Eytan said that this would take place within 24 or 48 hours. Where areEytan and Sharon? Where is Begin, who boasted that in 3 days he would liquidate the revolution? I am asking their U.S. masters: Where are they now? Our flesh tastes bitter and our bones are not soft. I repeat here in Jordan that this revolution came into existence in order to remain and to be victorious. I have the right to ask them. I also would like to remind you of the battles that moved from Beirut to Al-Biqa' where the image changed but the purport remained the same — from Jdaytah to Ba'labakk to Al-Hirmil, and to Al-Baddawi, Nahr al-Barid, and then to Tripoli. Despite all that had taken place, let me ask you from this position of responsibility and from my awareness of the enemy and the objectives of this battle that is aimed against the whole Arab nation: Have we entered the Israeli age? I pose this question to all Arab officials because we are facing a dangerous plan that aims at creating sectarian states. Thus, I am telling the brother Arabs: O God, guide my kinfolk because they do not know. To those who do not realize the grave dangers surrounding our Arab nation, I say that the situation is very serious.

This revolution is very big, it is gigantic. A decision by Haig, Begin, or any of those who speak Arabic or Hebrew will not liquidate this revolution. It is an impregnable mountain. This revolution is the modern phoenix which has risen like a giant from the ashes to say: Where are the challengers? In the name of these forces and the Palestinian fighters who, with their Lebanese brothers, are now waging war behind enemy lines, I say: Where are the challengers? This revolution is a continuous one.

The situation now is very serious. I spoke about it before the war when I said that we had entered a plot and a dark tunnel. On 16 March, on the anniversary of Kamal Junblatt's death, I said that we would fight in 'Alayh. Nobody believed me. We were besieged in Beirut, because the mountain was (?evacuated). Colonel 'Abdallah Siyam was martyred from the back, because they descended upon him from the mountain. How did that happen? I say that a political map is being drawn up. What is required is the formation of small factional states. I am saying this to sound the alarm. There is a U.S.-Israeli attempt to form factional states. But we will not allow or remain silent on this plot, which seeks to divide the Arab nation into small factional states. The plot will not be carried out. It is our pledge as men. On this occasion, I feel dutybound to sound the alarm so this cancer will not kill our Arab nation.

Brothers, in the midst of these developments, many people believe that if the enemy scores a victory here or there, then everything is finished. Is it not the destiny of this nation to face imperialist plans? Our path is long and rough, but we will not abandon it. We have always called for a protracted popular liberation war. This is how we understand the revolution, whose anniversary we are celebrating now.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asked: Why was war waged on Tripoli? It was for the purpose of striking at the PLO and doing away with the independent Palestinian national decisionamking. But this decisionmaking will never be in the hands of any Arab leader, but in the hands of the smallest club, among the Palestinian people. I now see victory and glory in the eyes of the children.

There are attempts to eliminate the Palestinian figure and to make the revolution kneel. This is why they decided to postpone the summit conference. But we have always proved that we are the most difficult figure. As 'Abd an-Nasir said, this revolution is here to stay, and I say that it is also here to triumph. I will not forget that the first support I got during the siege in Beirut and Tripoli was from our masses, especially those in the occupied territory. The International Red Cross representative told me in Beirut that the masses in the occupied territory wanted to send flour, clothes, and other provisions. How are we to bring these things, he asked.

Furthermore, when certain Arab symbols wanted to undermine the PLO, the masses came out in the streets saying: We are with the PLO and for independent Palestinian decisionmaking. This is exactly what happened in the Algerian revolution, when the Algerian people came out to affirm that they were the liberation front and that the liberation front was the Algerian people. This is what our Palestinian people in the occupied territory have asserted.

Brother Abu 'Ammar then spoke about the Islamic summit and how it reinforced Palestinian legitimacy and gave it more support in Casablanca. He said: The revolution is not Abu 'Ammar, Abu Yusuf, Abu 'Alayyn, Dalal al-Mughrabi, or Sa'd Sayil. This revolution belongs to the Arab masses from the ocean to the Gulf, not just to the Palestinian people. It also belongs to the honest and free people of this world. This revolution extends its hand to all revolutionaries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. I say that our path is difficult. But blessed are the strugglers and revolutionaries and blessed is our Arab nation which is writing history with letters of light and fire. We are writing history with the stones in the hands of our children in the occupied territory [words indistinct]. I say: Glad tidings, the victory is coming. As I stand before you now I see at the end of the tunnel the walls and churches of Jerusalem.

God hath purchased of the believers their persons and their goods; for their in return is the garden of paradise. They fight in his cause, and slay and are slain; a promise binding on him in truth, through the law, the Gospel, and the Koran. [Koranic verse]. [end recording]

Meets Spanish Prime Minister, Departs

JN010756 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Mar 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and his delegation left Amman at dawn today after a 4-day visit to Jordan during which he held successful talks with His Majesty King Husayn and Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat which were aimed at establishing the basis for the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship and realizing the supreme Arab interest. During his visit, 'Arafat met with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzales, a delegation from the occupied West Bank, and popular delegations representing the Palestinian camps in Jordan.

Further on Gonzalez Meeting

JN011321 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, met this morning with Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez at the residence of the Spanish ambassador in Amman. 'Arafat said later that he discussed with Mr Gonzalez the role that Spain can play — from its position in Europe, from the ruling Spanish Socialist Party's position in the Socialist International, and also from Spain's influential position in the Latin American countries — in backing the Palestinian struggle and the Palestinian people's just rights.

'Arafat said that Mr Gonzalez affirmed his country's principled position on our just cause, and pointed out that the talks also dealt with the uproar certain Zionist leaders created in order to persuade the Spanish Government to recognize Israel. He said that Mr Gonzalez asserted his firm position and that of his government and party on this subject. This position considers the Middle East issue essentially from the viewpoint of achieving Palestinian rights.

'Arafat described his talks with the Spanish prime minister as positive and fruitful. He said that he received an invitation to visit Spain, and that he will make this visit at the appropriate time.

Source Cited on Joint Statement

JN010939 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Mar 84 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman — *AD-DUSTUR* — An informed source has told *AD-DUSTUR* that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian statement will include a call for an urgent Arab summit conference and will stress the special, distinctive relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian people. The statement deals with future relations and affirms the need for joint moves, supported by the Arab nation, on the international level in general and on the European level in particular. The statement affirms that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and stresses independent Palestinian decisionmaking. The statement also warns of the dire consequences of the Israeli policy in the occupied territories. It hails our people's stand in the occupied territories and stipulates the formation of a joint delegation to visit the Arab countries.

Dailies on PLO-Jordan Dialogue

JN290936 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 29 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Inevitability of a Jordanian-Palestinian Agreement," *AL-LIWA'* says: At a time when attention is being paid to the results of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks, all signs indicate that the two sides will reach a comprehensive agreement on a formula for joint action in the coming stage in order to confront all the possibilities and foil the enemy's continuous attempts to impose a new political fait accompli in the region whereby neither the Palestinian question nor the Palestinian land will exist. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's assertion that agreement will be reached and that there are no obstacles to this joint objective strengthen our confidence and hope that urgent and effective measures will be taken to bolster the steadfastness of the kinfolk in the occupied territories and reach tangible results in the current situation to serve the Palestinian question and to save the land.

AL-LIWA' adds: From the beginning of the talks, Jordan has been concerned about stressing independent Palestinian decisionmaking and strengthening the PLO's legitimacy. At the same time, Jordan has expressed its viewpoint on the delicate situation and what must be done within the framework of cooperation and coordination with the Palestinian Arab people's legitimate representative in order to deal with the developments and requirements of joint action. At a time when we bless all Palestinian-Jordanian action, given that it is a pillar of the sound pan-Arab structure to reactivate Arab solidarity, we are astonished at the attempts of some Arabs and Palestinians who cast doubts on the joint Palestinian-Jordanian march, because such attempts — in their dimensions and objectives — serve Israeli and U.S. stands which refuse to recognize the PLO and Palestinian rights.

AL-LIWA' concludes: We hope the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement will be the beginning of a new stage of joint Arab action instead of entrenching Arab differences and the fabricated split in the Palestinian arena. The complete support that our kinfolk in the West Bank have announced for unified Jordanian-Palestinian action is a reply to the attempts to cast doubt on this good march, given that the delegations that arrived in Amman from the cities and villages of the West Bank carried with them a popular mandate blessing the 'Arafat-Husayn meeting and calling for surmounting all the obstacles to reach a comprehensive agreement to save the land and support the kinfolk.

Under the headline "Competition in Serving Israel," *AD-DUSTUR* says: Following a long involvement in the continuing Lebanese crisis and after exerting many efforts in the whirlpool of this abstruse crisis, the U.S. Administration has begun to hint directly and indirectly at its readiness to exert a more serious effort, within the framework of achieving progress toward the peace issue in the Middle East, on the basis of the Palestinian question, the crux of all conflicts in the region. However, before the seriousness of these indications becomes clear and taking into consideration that before approving a U.S. plan of action there would have to be a reevaluation of the U.S. stand in the region,

the U.S. Congress has already begun the process of obstuction through the many draft resolutions that some congressmen plan to present to the Senate and House of Representatives in an attempt to drag the U.S. Administration into more biased stands toward Israel and to hamper any possible action on this level.

AD-DUSTUR continues: The United States, which must learn from its bitter experience in Lebanon and the consequences of its flagrant bias toward the Israeli side over that country which is still exposed to killing and destruction, must adopt a more balanced policy away from the Israeli expansionist interests before the reins of power slip from the hands of all the parties and before the region gets ready for another fierce round of war and conflict. By virtue of its interests and international commitments to world peace and security, a superpower such as the United States must not continue to be captive of the Zionist lobbies, given that it has become clear that these lobbies give Israel's interests priority over the U.S. interests and serve Israeli expansion and aggression against Arab rights, U.S. interests, and the peace of the whole world.

Amman Weekly Reports Failed Syrian Coup

JN010855 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 1 Mar 84 p 28

[Text] The Syrian authorities have foiled an attempted coup by formations of the Syrian Army. The attempted coup was discovered 1 hour before the time it was due to be implemented. The Syrian authorities reinforced the guard at strategic places in Damascus and carried out a large-scale detention campaign throughout the army ranks.

Spain's Prime Minister Welcomed By 'Ubaydat

JN291645 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez arrived in Amman this afternoon on a 2-day official visit to Jordan. He was met at the airport by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat and the ministers of foreign affairs; industry, trade and tourism; and finance; as well as by the doyen of the diplomatic corps in Jordan and a number of civil and military high-ranking officials, in addition to the Spanish ambassador in Amman and the embassy staff. Gonzalez was given an official reception, where the guard of honor presented arms and the two national anthems were played. Gonzalez and 'Ubaydat inspected the guard of honor.

Meets With King Husayn

LD010456 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 2301 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpts] We now go over to our special correspondent in Amman, Antonio Regalado, who is following the official visit [as heard] by Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to Jordan:

[Regalado] Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has not had a meeting here in Amman tonight with the PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, though it is not being ruled out that he may do so tomorrow. Felipe Gonzalez had dinner tonight with King Husayn of Jordan who once again told him that he would like Gonzalez to pay an official visit to this country. Government Spokesman Eduardo Sotillos:

[Begin Sotillos recording] Both the prime minister and the king agreed that since there are such good relations between us, it is not normal for us to have such a low level of exchange and cooperation. So, I hope that we shall shortly have the opportunity of once again having (?among) us the prime minister and a delegation on an official visit. [end recording]

[Regalado] Naturally, they discussed Lebanon, the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the region. The Hashemite king is very interested in having our country participate in food production, educational, and defense programs here. Tomorrow Felipe Gonzalez will have a meeting with the prime minister while Minster of Finance and Economy Miguel Boyer will ratify an agreement with his Hashemite counterpart, an agreement that extends the field of cooperation.

[Regalado] The Spanish prime minister has been on a private visit to Jordan since 1600 hours today and will return tomorrow at midday after a 20-hour stay.

Further Details

JN010725 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez at An-Nadwah Palace yesterday. His Majesty King Husayn explained to Gonzalez the latest developments in the Middle East, Israel's defiance of the international community, and its continued aggression against Arab rights. He also reviewed Israel's policy in the occupied territories and its escalation of building settlements at the expense of and by displacing the legitimate landowners.

His majesty the king touched on the Lebanese problem and the Iraqi-Iranian war. He asserted that the continuation of the war harms the interests of and the people in the region, and that the negative effects of the Lebanese problem will threaten the interests of and people in the region.

Both sides discussed Jordanian-Spanish relations. They reviewed the means of promoting them in the economic and trade spheres, and the means of strengthening ties of friendship between the Jordanian and Spanish people.

Those attending the meeting were: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan; the prime minister; the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; the minister of the court; the deputy prime minister and minister of Interior; the commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the foreign minister; the minister of industry, trade, and tourism; and the delegation accompanying Gonzalez.

King Addresses West Bank Functionaries 29 Feb
JN292222 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn has said that the Arab individual can have no dignity except after the salvation of the land and the dignity of the kinfolk, who are holding out on it and whom we will not abandon. He added: Our position under all circumstances is that we will not relinquish an inch of the occupied territory.

Upon meeting with the West Bank popular functionaries at the Royal Hashemite Court tonight, his majesty stressed: We will not bargain over an inch of the Palestinian land. We have dealt with the reality which resulted from the 1967 tragedy so that the occupation can be removed and so that the Palestinian people can exercise their rights and determine their destiny on their national soil. His Majesty emphasized that the Jordanian stand is unwavering and has not changed either before or after 1974. Jordan, he added, continues to believe in the need to eliminate the Israeli occupation, guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and secure the return of all the occupied territories, headed by Jerusalem, in return for peace.

King Husayn Visits Oil Exploration Site
JN292114 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn, accompanied by the chief of the Royal Court, this afternoon visited the Qarmah oil well number 1 in the Al-Azraq region. His majesty listened to explanations from engineer Ahmad Dahqan, assistant director of the Natural Resources Authority [NRA]; engineer Yusuf an-Nammari, NRA general director; and engineer Kamal Juraysat, director of the Department of Energy Resources in the NRA. His majesty was briefed on the oil exploration program and the studies that have been prepared, as well as those that are being prepared.

His majesty was briefed on the well's productivity and the drilling operations that have taken place in the area. He was also told about the investigations and oil explorations that the NRA is currently carrying out, in addition to the activities that led to discovering oil in the Qarmah well. His majesty toured the various sections of the site and watched the oil flow.

At the end of his majesty's tour of the site, our correspondent Tahir ash-Shiyab conducted the following interview with him:

[Begin video recording] [Ash-Shiyab] Your Majesty, now that you have inspected this site and seen the oil flowing from this well, would your like to talk to the Jordanian family on this occasion?

[King Husayn] What we have seen today as a result of the belief, loyalty, and sincerity of all the persons involved in this field and scope undoubtedly heralds a good future for our country and our march, praise be to God. In fact, what we have seen here gives us great hopes that this will be the first step toward achieving self-sufficiency in the field of energy, and we hope that these blessings will increase in the future. Our trust in God is great. Praise be to God for what has been achieved.

[Ash-Shiyab] Thank you, your Majesty. [end video recording]

Reportage, Comment on Al-Jumayyil's Damascus Trip

RFL: Agreement Not Revoked

NC292253 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2245 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] According to reports received from Damascus, a statement is not expected to be issued in Damascus on the abrogation of the 17 May agreement during President al-Jumayyil's current visit to Syria. This issue will be tackled at the second round of the Lebanese national reconciliation conference, which will be held in Geneva shortly.

PSP Radio on Visit

NC010650 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Attention is still being focused on Damascus following the arrival in Damascus of Mr Amin al-Jumayyil and his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad and ranking Syrian officials in an attempt to save his neck.

Political and diplomatic circles that are closely following up the visit are awaiting emergence of an official stand on the talks, which were shrouded in complete secrecy. These circles are certain that Mr al-Jumayyil will abrogate the 17 May accord at the end of his visit to Damascus.

The Lebanese opposition believes that the visit is very important and that the abrogation of the accord is a big victory, as well as a victory for Syria and an affirmation of Lebanon's Arab affiliation. The opposition, however, believes the Lebanese dossier is still open and expresses fears over the possibility of reaching a settlement with Al-Jumayyil following the massacres he has committed, a matter that made him a party to the internal dispute and responsible for the destruction and ruination of the homeland and for the blood of the innocent citizens.

RFL Hints at Syrian Pressure

NC291817 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese negotiations are carrying on in Damascus while the Syrian projectiles are raining on Beirut. The shelling of the Christian eastern residential quarters is the familiar Syrian tactic and main argument in such circumstances. Today Syria has acted as during the visits of former President Ilyas Sarkis to Syria.

The question raised by the severity of the shelling is to whether the first round of talks ended this afternoon in failure but with hopes for the second round this evening; or one may wonder, as seems more probable, whether the bombardment is a form of a military pressure to reduce the demands in the brief absence of President al-Jumayyil.

Junblatt on Damascus Summit

JN011226 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Walid Junblatt announced today that President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Damascus is a victory for Syria and testifies to the bankruptcy of U.S. policy, and to a certain extent French policy. In a statement to AFP, Junblatt affirmed that the cancellation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement will not settle internal Lebanese issues.

Explosion Reported in West Beirut 29 February

NC291510 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] A big explosion was heard in West Beirut at about 1615 today. It was caused by a booby-trapped car on Midhat Basha Street in the Tallat al-Khayyat area. Ambulances, fire engines, and civil defense teams rushed to the scene to contain the fire and take the wounded to the hospital. A blaze is still raging in a residential building in the area.

Preliminary reports say many people were killed or wounded, mainly children who were playing in the grounds where the booby-trapped car was parked near the Al-Jamil spare parts shop.

2 killed, 20 Wounded

NC291536 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1527 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Preliminary reports say that, as a result of the explosion in the Tallat al-Khayyat area near a public park, 2 people were killed and 20 others were wounded. A military expert says the explosion was caused by either a booby-trapped parcel or by two shells landing on the area.

Following a telephone call to the Lebanese Television building in Tallat al-Khayyat, it was ascertained that all employees are safe.

Meanwhile, shells fell on the Qasqas area, wounding seven people.

Explosion Casualty Figure

NC291916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The number of victims of the car bomb explosion in the Tallat al-Khayyat area in Beirut is now 3 dead, including a child, and 38 wounded, 3 seriously.

The Internal Security Forces General Directorate has asked the citizens to report any suspicious car or object.

Result of Muslim Differences

NC291834 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Bomb warfare between various armed bands in West Beirut has already started. At 4:40 pm a car bomb exploded in the area of Tallat al-Khayyat behind Dar al-Fatwa [mufti's office], causing a huge blaze, destroying a number of vehicles, and causing over 50 casualties. Rescue workers endeavored to transport them to the American and Al-Maqasid Hospitals.

This explosion took place in a Sunnite region following the stance adopted by Sunnite leaders against the hegemony of various armed sections over the inhabitants of west Beirut. It took place also shortly after the end of an Islamic meeting held at Dar al-Fatwa this afternoon. Immediately after the explosion, elements of the armed organizations sealed off the area to all wishing to approach. Then, elements of Al-Murabitun and of Amal clashed after disagreement as to who should take control of the situation.

Birri, Religious Leaders Denuniciation

NC291840 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] There has been strong reaction to today's criminal explosion, which was denounced by several religious and political leaders. Within this context, Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of the republic, received a telephone call from Cardinal Mar Antonios Butrus Khuraysh, who informed Mufti Khalid that he denounces the painful incident and condemns all criminal collective killing. Mufti Khalid also received a telephone call from Bishop Iliyas 'Awdah, who denounced the tragic incident.

Commenting on this criminal incident, Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri said: These criminal hands do not aim against a specific building — they aim against the national security being established in West Beirut. They are disappointed by the atmosphere of calm and tranquillity which prevails this national area, by the restoration of normal life, and by the reactivation of business, schools, and iinstitutions. They are attempting to disturb such an atmosphere. We are confident that such attempts will not disturb the prevailing security but will increase our determination to maintain it and to be more vigilant and alert.

All security departments and all the citizens are required to be alert and to raise the slogan: Every citizen is a guard.

Mufti Khalid Urges Unity, Accord Abrogation

NC291854 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Mufti Khalid today chaired the third Islamic meeting, which was attended by former prime ministers and present and former ministers and deputies. Mufti Khalid said the meeting was to follow up the consultations on the general political situation, which stem from our desire to safeguard Lebanon as a one and undivided country.

His eminence said: President al-Jumayyil's Damascus visit was discussed at the meeting. There is no doubt that we all attach great importance to this meeting. We hope the meeting will bring about positive results for both countries, and particularly for Lebanon's security and stability.

Mufti Khalid stressed that the Arab option is the only one. He said: We are eager to achieve a solution in the interest of all. His eminence expressed the belief that the abrogation of the 17 May agreement is a step to a solution. He urged all leaders and officials to work within this framework. He hoped that solutions will be reached to bring about peace in Lebanon and a peaceful and secure life for all the Lebanese people.

Junblatt Arrives in Beirut, Meets Birri

NC010911 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Immediately upon his arrival in Beirut today, Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt visited the residence of Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri as part of their ongoing consultations.

Ba'th Official Visits As-Sulh, Makes Statement

JN291630 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1320 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Beirut, 29 Feb (SANA) — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Amin, assistant secretary of the Regional Command of the Ba'th Party organization in Lebanon, visited former Lebanese Prime Minister Taqiy ad-Din as-Sulh in the presence of Regional Command members Suhayl Qassar and Haydar Humani.

Comrade al-Amin, in a statement after the visit, said that talks focused on all the current political developments and the future possibilities. He added that the two sides held identical views on the necessity of abrogating the agreement of submission as an unavoidable step to end a situation that has been imposed on Lebanon and its people.

Al-Amin added that abrogating the agreement of submission, which constitutes a big transitional step, must not be considered an alternative to political reform. He pointed out that after the agreement of submission is abrogated, the Lebanese crisis must be put in its proper place and a serious discussion in which all nationalist functionaries and forces are represented can begin in order to arrive at a new Lebanon. Comrade al-Amin explained that any radical solution to the Lebanese crisis and any establishment of a just and honorable peace for all the Lebanese must be based on the cancellation of all forms of factional and sectarian hegemony over the government and the assertion of Lebanon's Arab affiliation.

Lebanese Forces Command Makes Appointments

NC292021 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command's official spokesman said tonight that the Command Council held a special meeting within

its open sessions under the chairmanship of [Lebanese Forces Commander] Fadi Afram and in the presence of the members. The conferees reviewed the conditions in the country and the items on the council's agenda.

The Command Council made the following appointments:

Fu'ad Abu Nadir was appointed chief of the General Staff; George 'Udwan as secretary general of the Command Council; Tony Brinji as inspector general; Samir Ja'ja' as chief of the mobilization organ; and Karim Baqraduni as adviser to [word indistinct].

A chief of the security ad intelligence was also appointed.

U.S. Aircraft Resume Overflights 1 Mar
NC010559 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] The security situation remains extremely tense. Intermittent explosions and bursts of gunfire continued to be heard on the axes of Beirut and its southern suburb, particularly in Al-Laylakah, Al-Hadath, Galerie Sim'an, Saqiy al-Hadath, and Sfayr.

U.S. warplanes also flew over Lebanese territory this morning. U.S. warplanes flew almost continuously for nearly 2 hours before midnight last night. The U.S. planes resumed their reconnaissance flights early this morning.

VOL Says U.S. Ships Opens Retaliatory Fire
NC292123 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2118 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] According to security reports, a U.S. warship fired several salvos at 2230 tonight in retaliation against the shelling of the perimeter of the U.S. ambassador's residence in Al-Yarzi from Ba'lshmayh and its surroundings.

Explosion at American University Causes Damage
NC010558 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] An explosion took place inside the American University campus at 0100 today. Security sources report that the explosion caused only heavy material damage.

VOAL: Resistance Group Carries Out 3 Operations
NC291422 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Reports from southern Lebanon say that Lebanese national resistance men carried out three operations this morning against the occupation forces in Sidon. Several casualties were inflicted upon the enemy soldiers. Details are unknown because the occupation forces sealed off the area.

Al-Asad Continues Talks With Lebanese President

First Meeting Ends

NC291603 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The first summit between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad was held at the guest palace in Damascus. The meeting ended this afternoon when the Syrian president left the palace. Nothing was issued indicating what was discussed at the 90-minute meeting.

The first meeting was attended by Lebanese delegation members Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim; Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, acting director of the Internal Security Forces; Jean 'Ubayd; and Michel Samahah. The Syrian side was represented by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm and Ministers 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Faruq ash-Shar'.

Informed sources in Beirut said President al-Jumayyil has taken with him up to 10 proposals. It is expected that they will be a subject of discussion at the Lebanese-Syrian summit meetings, which will last more than 1 day.

Official Lebanese sources consider the tripartite summit important at this difficult stage through which Lebanon is passing. They say the discussions will deal in particular with the relations between the two countries and their future course in the light of important political and security issues, mainly the 17 May agreement. The sources expect the summit to result in the resumption of the national dialogue conference and the formation of a government of national unity after the consolidation of the cease-fire everywhere in Lebanon.

Political sources in Beirut expect President al-Jumayyil to visit Saudi Arabia immediately after the conclusion of his visit to Damascus to meet with King Fahd and brief him on what will be agreed upon with the Syrian side. Other sources expect Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri to arrive in Damascus shortly to participate in the Lebanese-Syrian discussions.

Closed Meeting 29 Feb

JN292145 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad gave a dinner banquet in the Ad-Dimashqiyah hall this evening in honor of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. It was attended by the members of the Lebanese delegation accompanying the president, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the deputy prime ministers, the ministers, the heads of the diplomatic missions in Damascus, and the general directors of the information departments.

President Hafiz al-Asad resumed his talks with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil in a closed meeting they held in the presidential palace at 1800 today. Talks between the two presidents began immediately after President Amin al-Jumayyil's arrival. They were attended for Syria by Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the prime minister; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs. They were attended for Lebanon by Dr Elie Salim, minister of foreign affairs; Jean 'Ubayd, adviser to President al-Jumayyil; Brigadier General 'Uthman 'Uthman, director general of the internal security forces; and Michel Samahah, adviser to the Lebanese president.

Talks dealt with the situation in the region, particularly the situation in the Lebanese arena in light of the new developments and the desire to find solutions that preserve Lebanon's Arabism and rights. The talks also dealt with the subject of cooperation between the two fraternal Arab countries.

Talks Resume 1 March

JN011228 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] At 1255 today, President Hafiz al-Asad resumed the talks which began yesterday with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. The talks were held in a closed meeting at the republican palace.

Pact Abrogation 'Main Topic'

NC011243 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The Lebanese-Syrian summit is continuing in Damascus today. President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad are expected to have begun their third round of talks at this hour. This was preceeded by a series of contacts by President al-Jumayyil this morning with a number of Syrian officials. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim met with his Syrian counterpart Abd al-Halim Khaddam in the presence of Jean 'Ubayd at the Foreign Ministry.

According to information received from our correspondent in Damascus, President al-Jumayyil's visit might end this evening with the president holding a news conference. Unconfirmed reports in Damascus said President al-Jumayyil might proceed to Riyadh from the Syrian capital to brief King Fahd and Saudi officials on the results of his talks with the Syrian president. Nothing has been announced on the content of the talks thus far, but informed circles said that the talks were extremely positive and that an atmosphere of understanding on matters discussed prevailed during the talks.

The talks began yesterday with two meetings. The first was an expanded meeting attended by the members of the Lebanese and Syrian delegations; the second meeting was a closed one between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad. The abrogation of the 17 May accord with Israel was the main topic in the talks. Informed sources in Damascus said the talks centered on the best way to abrogate the 17 May accord — a step which President al-Jumayyil had promised to carry out. This helped in the achievement of a cease-fire in Lebanon last week. Some sources said it is possible that Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad will announce the abrogation of the agreement in the Syrian capital, or they may refer the matter to the proposed National Dialogue Conference in Geneva, where all the parties would have to agree to abrogate the agreement.

Agreement 'in Principle' on Accord

NC010728 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpts] Amid a positive encouraging atmosphere, Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Amin al-Jumayyil are slated to resume their summit today with a third round of talks. Highly placed Syrian sources have said that the first day of the visit was crowned with an agreement in principle to revoke the 17 May accord. It has also been reiterated that Damascus will hold contacts with all of the Lebanese sides.

In another development, a source said that the principal aim behind the Syrian-Lebanese summit is to use Damascus as an alternative to Geneva and that the summit will reconcile all the Lebanese factions, without having to go to Geneva. The source pointed out that immediately following the summit, Syria will begin consultations with various Lebanese leaders in order to define the nature of the next phase. Well informed sources expect President al-Jumayyil to leave Damascus for Riyadh to brief Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the outcome of his talks with Syrian officials.

Al-Asad Chairs Ba'th Party Meeting 29 Feb

JN010640 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Damascus — The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command met last night under Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general. They discussed a number of general and party issues that were on its agenda.

Defense Minister Receives Iranian Official

JN291245 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief and defense minister, received in his office today Hoseyn Shaykh ol-Eslam, Iranian under secretary of foreign affairs, and the members of his delegation. The discussion during this meeting, which was attended by the Iranian charge d'affaires in Damascus, dealt with the events witnessed by the Middle East region and the Islamic world, the recent developments in the region, and the honorable role played by President Hafiz al-Asad in confronting and foiling imperialist and Zionist plans.

Further Details

LD291739 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Our country's political under secretary in the Foreign Ministry, currently visiting Damascus at the head of a delegation, today met with the Syrian defense minister and deputy commander of the Armed Forces, Mustafa Talas, and delivered a letter from our country's defense minister. The political under secretary in the Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran also reported on the great victories achieved by the Islamic combatants during the Val-Fajr V, Val-Fajr VI, and the Khaybar operations following a review of the region's current situation. He then pointed to the Islamic Republic's decisive stance in rejecting the exclusion zone declared by the U.S. fleet.

TISHRIN on Syrian Credibility, U.S. 'Failure'

JN011152 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 1 Mar 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Syria and an Arab, Independent Lebanon," *TISHRIN* writes:

The results of recent events both on the Arab and Lebanese levels have reaffirmed the credibility of the principled Syrian position in rejecting the U.S. plans to first tackle the Palestinian problem and then solve the Lebanese problem. The White House administration, which is well aware of the nature of the situation in the Arab region and which realizes the extent of the fraternal Syrian-Lebanese relations, has ignored this fact and worked to impose the humiliating 17 May agreement on Lebanon through its aircraft and warships and under the threat of Zionist occupation in order to realize Israel's ancient ambitions of controlling southern Lebanon, which is rich in the water resources that Israel needs, and to impose joint hegemony on the destiny of fraternal Lebanon.

Observers of events readily realize that this agreement cannot grant Lebanon anything except to leave it at the mercy of the Israeli whims and the U.S. hegemony. Thus, the Israeli occupation of Lebanese territory will be made permanent. Hence the importance of canceling the agreement because this will be the door to national dialogue, reconciliation, and political reform. Thus, Lebanon will be transformed from being at the mercy of Washington and Tel Aviv to being a unified, free, and independent Arab Lebanon that is merged with its Arab family. Lebanon will regain its distinctive cultural role in the region.

This is what Syria wanted to realize for Lebanon from the beginning. It is also Syria's present wish. In so doing, Syria is embodying the wishes of the Syrian and Lebanese peoples. The Lebanese people have strongly resisted the Israeli forces of occupation on their soil and have worked with all the means available to them to drive out the U.S. Marines who came following the Zionist invasion with the aim of reaping the fruits of this invasion — an aim which Israel failed to realize. This plunged the U.S. Administration into an unnecessary impasse.

After the utter U.S. failure in Lebanon, the White House administration began looking for a way out that would be in keeping with its role as a superpower. It therefore, looked for other ways to make good its losses in Lebanon and began to play up new plans despite its conviction that these plans would be no more successful nor their fate any better than the 17 May agreement, which is now in its death throes; the Reagan plan to liquidate the Palestinian cause; and the principle of the Jordanian option, which the United States has sponsored.

Now that Lebanon, through President Amin al-Jumayyil, has turned toward Syria following the same moves of the nationalist

Lebanese forces, it proves without a doubt that the historical, organic relations between the two fraternal countries are very strong. It is also proof that Syria wants for Lebanon the same thing that the Lebanese themselves want for it, namely, freedom, sovereignty, independence, and the liberation of Lebanese territory. Syria's insistence on cancelling the agreement stemmed from Syria's desire to preserve the security of Syria and the Arabs because the cause of Arab security is an indivisible whole.

Commentary Views U.S. Positions in Region

JN291858 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1225 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Since the first stage of the colonialist system's retreat and the recession of the colonialist zone and influence after World War II, peoples' experiences with imperialism have proved that the colonialists suffer defeat after defeat and are forced to retreat from position after position before the advancement of the peoples' liberation movements and to taste bitter setbacks and coexistence with them. But the colonialists have never admitted peoples' victories and have never refrained from exerting every effort or using every capability to regain that which they had been forced to abandon. This was the case of the colonialists with the emergence of the socialist bloc and the peoples' national liberation movements in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This also applies to the Middle East and the Arab homeland from ocean to Gulf.

The Arab national liberation movement has succeeded in achieving the Arab countries' political independence, eliminated the foreign military bases, removed the foreign armies from the Arab lands, abolished the colonialist alliances, achieved relative control of the Arab markets, and extorted some Arab rights over the Arabs' oil wealth. Desptie this, the colonialists have never refrained from trying to regain what they lost and seeking vengeance for their defeats. Such attemtps charactrized the behavior of the American colonialists, who assumed the leadership of the colonialist camp after the collapse of the British and French empires. The most prominent features of these attemtps are represented by the U.S. move to domiante the Middle East in 1956 and 1957 in the name of the Eisenhower doctrine aimed at filling the vacuum that resulted from the retreat of British and French colonialism, and by the U.S. onslaught on the region in early 1970 which reachced its apex in the Camp David accords and found its continuation in Reagan's proposals in 1982, the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, and the U.S. military interference in Lebanon in 1982, 1983, and 1984.

The recent U.S. attempt reached a point where the United States concentrated the U.S. fleet in the eastern Mediterranean, sent its forces to Lebanon, and launched aggression against the Syrian forces in Lebanon. As a result of the U.S. forces' withdrawal from Lebanese territory under the pressure of the reality that imposed itself on the ground, U.S. imperialism suffered a big defeat in Lebanon and the region at the hands of the Arab national liberation movement led by Syria and the Lebanese Nationalist Forces. This U.S. defeat in Lebanon has historic importance and a future dimension that will greatly affect the course of events and the balance of power in the region. The failure of the U.S. policy of force is no less important than the change which was brought about by the nationalization of the Suez Canal and the failure of the tripartite Israeli, British, and French invasion of Egypt in 1956. Therefore, dear listeners, we should be fully aware of the moves of the defeated enemy, which has large capabilities, many agents, evil ways, and the courage to use the dirtiest means and tools. We should also be vigilant toward the return of the defeated to try to take vengeance on those who achieved victory and success in defending their rights and land.

Syria's masses, who have moved from one victory to another and assumed the burdens of the battle in defense of their national interests, the fraternal Lebanese people, and the pan-Arab cause of the Arab nation, will continue to insist on protecting their victories and accomplishments and to be ready to confront any threat, pressure, and conspiracy. Nothing will be able to prevent them from their victorious march. During their struggle to regain their rights, expel the Israeli invaders from their land, realize their national accord, and secure the unity of land and the people, the fraternal Lebanese people will find Syria by their side with all its potentials and will. The future of Lebanon and the region will certainly be brilliant, because everything in the world and the region evinces support for the peoples' interests against the tyranny and aggression of the imperialists and their agents. Just as it withdrew from Vietnam and Southeast Asia, the United States will leave the Middle East, and struggler President Hafiz al-Asad's saying that we, and not colonialism and Zionism, are the ones who will determine history and geography in the region, will prove sound.

Italian CP Delegation Leaves Damascus 29 Feb

JN291813 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — The Italian Communist Party delegation led by Comrade Dario Valari, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Italian Senate, left Damascus at 1300 today. In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Comrade Valari noted his meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad, and said: The president briefed us on Syria's opinion concerning the international situation and the Mediterranean region in light of the U.S. imperialist and Israeli threats against Syria. He also said that he personally had acquainted himself with Syria's economic pgoress and the accomplishments made under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in all fields. Comrade Valari also said that an agreement between the Italian Communist Party and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party on exchanging views on fundamental issues had been signed.

Agreement Signed

JN291626 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus, 29 Feb, (SANA) — A cooperation agreement between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Italian Communist Party for the years 1984 and 1985 was signed here today. It was signed by Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, member of the Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, and Dario Valari,

vice president of the Italian Senate and member of the Italian Communist Party Politburo.

Protocols With GDR on Electronics, Communications

LD291007 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1946 GMT 28

[Text] Damascus, 28 Feb (ADN) — Protocols on further economic and scientific-technological cooperation in electronics and communications between the GDR and Syria were signed in Damascus today. The documents were signed on behalf of the GDR by Minister Felix Meier and on behalf of Syria by Ministers Dr Ahmad 'Umar Yusuf and Ra'fat al-Kurdi. The two sides praised the good results in the joint work to date in the electrification of Syria and the setting up of electricity equipment. The protocols plan for further cooperation in the energy sectory. Earlier Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Minister Meier for a talk on the state and development of long-term economic cooperation.

During the preceding days Minister Meier held talks with other government members, and on [26 February in Aleppo he handed over the sixth 230-kv transformer station built by the GDR in Syria.

Husayn Readiness To Talk With Israel Noted

JN291757 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — Yasir 'Arafat continues his talks with King Husayn to authorize the latter to have a free hand in the Palestinian people's rights and to speak in their name in direct negotiations with the Zionist enemy. AFP quoted a responsible source in Amman as saying that a round of talks, which might be the last one, will be held between Husayn and 'Arafat today in the presence of their closest aides.

The source also said that a joint statement on these talks that began last Sunday will be issued. Meanwhile, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz disclosed that King Husayn had recently informed the administration of his desire to enter into negotiations with Israel within the coming weeks with or without 'Arafat's participation. The enemy radio cited Shultz as saying during his recent meeting with Shimon Peres, leader of the Zionist opposition Labor Party, that King Husayn urged Washington to push the wheel of negotiations between him and Israel forward. The radio also said that several U.S. officials had expressed the Reagan administration's satisfaction with the shift that has taken place in 'Arafat's policy.

In the enemy's entity, Knesset member Yusuf Farid of the Ma'rakh Alignment has called on Yasir 'Arafat to recognize what he called the State of Israel and to join negotiations with it. Israel radio also cited Farid as saying that 'Arafat should not leave Amman without authorizing King Husayn to open the phases of negotiations with Israel.

Shamir Invitation to King Husayn Reported

JN292205 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Occupied Palestine — Israeli Prime Minister Shamir today renewed his invitation to King Husayn of Jordan to hold negotiations with Israel. Shamir's invitation came in a statement he made on the occasion of the current talks in Amman between 'Arafat and the Jordanian king.

Shamir Reacts to Husayn-'Arafat Talks

TA291620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Today, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reacted, for the first time, to the Husayn-'Arafat talks, and said if the Jordanian monarch wants peace, he should realize that the address for talks is Jerusalem, not 'Arafat. The prime minister added that he believes the current talks will not yield any results whatsoever. The prime minister was interviewed by the correspondent for the Yiddish department of the Voice of Israel, Arye Julius.

Shamir on Abrogation of Lebanese Agreement

TA011141 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Statement by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir during visit to Hadera power station on 1 March — recorded]

[Text] If the agreement between us and Lebanon is canceled, we shall regard this as a grave step entailing considerable damage mainly to Lebanon's interests. This agreement was also important to us, however, and that is why we signed it. If it is canceled, then Israel will have to ensure security arrangements on the border, without taking into consideration any commitments or limitations we took upon ourselves as a result of this agreement. I should also like to say that even if this agreement is not carried out, it was of very considerable political usefulness to us at the time.

[Announcer] Mr Shamir also stated that Israel was not negotiating with Syria regarding security arrangements on its northern border.

Further Remarks

TA011152 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Our reporter Vivian Royston asked Prime Minister Shamir, during his tour of Hadera power station, what significance the reported Lebanese decision to abrogate the 17 May pact would hold for Israel:

[Begin recording][Shamir] For Israel, it is not a positive development. We are interested to have friendly ties and friendly arrangements with all our neighbors, including Lebanon. But in this case it does not depend only on us, and if this agreement would be abrogated under the pressure of Syria, under the terrible pressure of Syria, we will regret it and we will arrange our security necessities as we understand them, and as the situation will oblige us to do it.

[Royston] Will this mean the deployment further south?

[Shamir] This is a technical matter, and it will be discussed by our security men and the government. [end recording]

Political Sources on Al-Jumayyil Visit to Damascus

TA291536 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Jerusalem political sources believe Al-Jumayyil will capitulate to Syrian pressure, and official sources in the capital have stated resolutely that this would mean conceding Lebanon's independence and sovereignty. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

A few weeks ago, Jerusalem formulated an official reaction in the eventuality that Amin al-Jumayyil announces the abrogation of the accord with Israel. Official Israeli sources today expressed the hope that the Lebanese president will be able to withstand the pressure, but off the record the political sources believe that in going to Damascus, Al-Jumayyil has made his conciliatory move to give up the accord even if a diplomatic formula is found to officially postpone the abrogation.

A Lebanese emissary visited Israel 2 weeks ago. He looked into the possibility of Amin al-Jumayyil making an official visit to Jerusalem. Some, although admittedly they were very few, entertained the hope that the Lebanese president was simultaneously examining the Israeli option.

Israeli reaction to Al-Jumayyil's trip to Damascus this morning is that any agreement to abrogate the 17 May accord is tantamount to Lebanon forfeiting its independence. Israel, it was said, would regard itself as relieved of its various commitments to Lebanon, and would act in southern Lebanon only according to its security needs.

Once the accord is actually abrogated, Jerusalem will probably issue a firm announcement condemning the fact, for the sake of the principle in question and for the record. However, Israel has in fact reconciled itself to the loss of the chance to implement the accord.

The debate on the continued Israeli presence in southern Lebanon began 2 weeks ago, irrespective of the situation in Beirut, and the delay in deciding on the redeployment — government sources have clarified — has nothing whatever to do with the future of that agreement.

Now it looks as though the relations between Israel and Lebanon will resume the character they assumed prior to the war — namely, they will continue indirectly and surreptitiously. The Syrians also want the Israeli representation near Beirut to be closed. For the moment, there is no certainty how the Lebanese president will act in this respect. Political circles expressed the opinion today that the ties with the Christians in Lebanon will continue, and they mentioned in this context aging leader Camille Sham'un, who came out against revocation of the accord, and who — contrary to members of the Al-Jumayyil clan — has succeeded in maintaining good relations with the variety of sects in Lebanon.

So is Sham'un Israel's new card in Lebanon now? The answer: Israel is no longer fostering any new elements with its neighbor to the north.

Correspondent Reports Views on Accord Abrogation

TA291949 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Report by political correspondent Yoram Ronen — live in the studio]

[Text] It was said in Jerusalem this evening that if the accord with Lebanon is abrogated, Israel will act as it wishes in southern Lebanon and will decide on security arrangements [sidurey] there independently, without coordinating this with the Lebanese. The practical implication of this is the creation of a Syria-influenced zone in the north, and another under Israeli influence in the south.

It is common knowledge that Israel attributed great importance to the accord, although in effect it had no practical meaning. The prime minister had hoped the United States would be able to influence Al-Jumayyil not to revoke the accord and become a puppet ruler manipulated by Damascus. Because of the faint hope that the accord would not be abrogated, the prime minister and the defense minister wanted to avoid a Cabinet resolution last Sunday regarding an IDF redeployment in Lebanon. In their opinion, had such a decision been made, it would only have played into the hands of those who wanted to see the accord abrogated.

Deliberations on the IDF redeployment in Lebanon after the accord is revoked will probably gain momentum next week, after the defense minister returns from the United States [from his brother's funeral and the 7 days of mourning]. The IDF and the defense establishment are meanwhile working on operational plans aimed at limiting the IDF presence there, and thinning the forces along a line more to the south within a few months. In the end, it looks like there will be no choice for Israel but to maintain a limited presence in southern Lebanon for many years to come.

Syria May Agree To Border Security Arrangements

TA010628 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Our correspondent for Arab affairs believes the Syrians are prepared to agree to security arrangements on Israel's northern border with Lebanon, once the agreement between Israel and Lebanon has been cancelled. Messages along these lines have been conveyed to Israel from Syria by various means. Our political correspondent thinks Israel may go along with an initiative of that kind.

Sources Deny Syrian Intention To Reach Arrangement

TA011229 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 1 Mar 84 pp 1, 15

[Report by military correspondent Yosef Walter]

[Excerpt] Political and security sources yesterday made it clear that Israel has not received any direct or indirect signs from Syria that it is willing to establish "red lines" and take security measures in its northern border in the event that the agreement with Lebanon is abrogated.

A top security source said in reaction to these reports: "The Lebanese recently passed to us many messages about Syria's purported intentions to reach a settlement in Lebanon. These are fairy tales which are meant to sweeten the bitter pill of the agreement's abrogation. Damascus has no intention of reaching a settlement with Israel; it is preparing for war."

The security establishment and political circles are waiting for the results of the Damascus summit before renewing the discussions on the redeployment in Lebanon. Security sources stress that the abrogation of the agreement would release Israel from all its commitments and it would henceforth act only in accordance with its security needs.

In the security establishment the possibility is being considered that under the influence of Damascus, Al-Jumayyil might form an anti-Israeli government which would strengthen the extremist elements and increase hostile activity against the IDF.

Such a development would have much influence on Israel's future decisions about its stay in Lebanon. Discussions about the IDF's redeployment in Lebanon will soon enter high gear.

Lebanese Forces Joining South Lebanese Army

TA291139 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The commander of the Christian-led Lebanese Forces in southern Lebanon says that within 1 week his men will have completed their absorption into the south Lebanese army now being created there. The Lebanese Forces now feel their interests would be better served by joining the united local force of the south Lebanese army which Israel is trying to form as part of security arrangements for its northern border. More from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

[Begin recording] [Ben-'Ami] (Nazan Ajariyan), the Lebanese Forces' commander in the south, told me that he hopes that the merger move which began last month would be completed within 1 week.

[Ajariyan] There was a decision from the Lebanese Forces' council of command to close the barracks and the bases of the Lebanese Forces south of the Al-Awwali River. This decision is being applied now, week after week, area after area, and we think that in 1 week we are going to see no more military presence of the Lebanese Forces south of the Al-Awwali. After that, not only the soldiers that were in the Lebanese Forces but also a great number of Lebanese from the south are joining the free Lebanon army. This is something we want and this is something we are going to do a lot of effort so that it will happen. [sentence as heard]

[Ben-'Ami] The budding south Lebanese army, about 2,000-men strong, is attracting a growing number of recruits from all the communities in the south. But the Christian community still provides the majority of the soldiers who sign on for 1 year, get Israeli-supplied equipment and salaries equivalent to about $300 a month.

Sharbil Barakat became temporary commander when Major

Sa'd Haddad died earlier this year. Barakat, a young Christian who holds the rank of lieutenant in the Lebanese Army, is a popular figure, but he has neither the experience nor the influence and authority which Sa'd Haddad gained in the south.

Informed observers believe that Barakat will continue as temporary commander for a while yet but that a more influential and accepted officer will finally be found to head the south Lebanese army.

As for (Nazan Ajariyan), the outgoing commander of the Lebanese Forces, he is expected to play a leading political role among the Christian community in the south. [end recording]

Phalangists Joining 'Haddad's Army'

TA291624 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1610 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 29 Feb (ITIM) — The soldiers and commanders of Haddad's army have recently begun applying pressure on the Israeli aid units and the administration in Beirut to speed up the decision process regarding the appointment of a new commander for Haddad's army. They clearly hinted that they would like the new commander to continue in the tradition established by Haddad, one of the petty officers in Haddad's army said. "The fact that hundreds of fighters have been joining Haddad's army proves that there is a lot of confidence in the army," another officer added.

ITIM has learned that 400 Phalangists have recently joined Haddad's army. They were members of the Phalangist unit in the south which has recently disbanded when their commander, (Nazan Ajariyan), also joined that army. (Ajariyan) justified his move by contending that the Haddad army is currently the only real army functioning in Lebanon. "Here there is order and discipline together with a sincere desire to defend Lebanese soil," he said.

It has been learned that hundreds of Christian youths have been knocking on the doors of the Marj 'Uyun recruitment center, hoping to enlist, but many of them are being rejected. "We cannot accept everyone, for fear that ultimately we too will not have an army," the Haddad army recruitment personnel say. On the average, every third man is being turned down by the recruitment officers for various reasons, primarily the fear that foreign elements might penetrate the army and sabotage its factional stability.

Druze Leader Sends Message to Lebanese Druze

TA011029 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The spiritual leader of the Druze community in Israel, Shaykh 'Amin Tarif, called on his Druze brethren in Lebanon not to allow elements hostile to Israel to infiltrate their ranks or the territories liberated by them some time ago. At a reception held at his home in the village of Julis, Shaykh Tarif explained that the Druze in Israel consider themselves an integral part of the State of Israel, and any harm to the state is tantamount to harm to them.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the reception was held by the Druze spiritual leader in honor of the inspector general of the police, the head of the border police, and the commander of the northern district. He also asked them to assist Druze officers in the border police in obtaining more senior command positions.

Curfew on South Lebanese Village Lifted

TA011045 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1035 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The IDF this morning lifted the curfew on the Shi'ite village of 'Arab Salim, 6 km northeast of An-Nabatiyah. Two days ago 2 IDF soldiers were killed near this village in a clash with terrorists. Our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, reports that the IDF has made widespread searches of this village during the past 2 days. As stated, this morning the curfew on the village was lifted.

Ben-Elisar Criticizes U.S. on Lebanon Role

TA291828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, said tonight that the U.S. indifference toward the possibility that Al-Jumayyil might abrogate the agreement with Israel greatly damages the credibility of the United States as a superpower. In a talk with our correspondent Arye Golan, Ben-Elisar said that Amin al-Jumayyil had no choice but to go to Damascus.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Elisar] Nobody left him any other choice. And I believe that his trip to Damascus, and the probable results of this trip, confirm what we really feared would happen concerning the security of Israel, namely, that we could not rely on anybody, certainly not on the United States, in anything relating to Lebanon, not on any Lebanese central government, and not on any group in Lebanon. We can rely only on ourselves in maintaining the security of Israel.

[Golan] How do you assess the U.S. role? Do you see the United States as responsible for this latest development?

[Ben-Elisar] No, I do not want to blame the United States or to lay the responsibility at its feet. However, I can say that the United States did not fulfill the role demanded by its status as the world's greatest power. There are two alternatives: Either you decide to send the Marines to a certain place and undertake to protect a certain regime, in this case the regime of Al-Jumayyil, and then accomplish what you undertake. Or you do not undertake such a thing; do not bring in the Marines; do not turn your back on your commitments and withdraw the Marines.

And all this was against the Syrians, who are backed by the Soviet Union, the second superpower which is your rival. Therefore, I have no doubt that in this case the United States failed to fulfill its role.

Another thing of great importance, which will have an influence in future: The signature of the United States appears on the Israeli-Lebanese accord, and if this agreement is abrogated while

the United States is... I do not want to use the word neutral. There is no U.S. neutrality here, and there were no doubts on the part of the United States. I believe that there were U.S. hints, if not more, towards Lebanon and Saudi Arabia, that the United States would accept — if it had no other choice — the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. In this way, the United States severely damaged the value of its signature. [end recording]

Kohen-Orgad Returns From U.S., Comments on Talks
TA291539 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad returned a short while ago from the United States. At Ben-Gurion Airport, he said that some of the persons with whom he met in Washington told him that Israel must take even more extreme economic measures. The finance minister remarked that all the persons with whom he conferred said that the steps which the government intends to take are in the right direction, and they noted that if Israel did not implement the plan and did not help itself, Israel would find it difficult to improve its economy.

E. Jerusalem Press Debates 'Arafat-Husayn Meeting
TA011101 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 1 Mar 84 p 4

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari]

[Text] The debate in Judaea and Samaria over the visit of 'Arafat to Amman sharpened yesterday, and this was expressed in the East Jerusalem press.

AL-MITHAQ, which supports the reform movement in the PLO, writes that 'Arafat does not represent the PLO and the Palestinian people; his claim to representation amounts to that of the Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil. The paper attacks 'Arafat as a fabricator, and writes that his visit to Amman runs contrary to the desire of the Palestinians.

The English-language edition of *AL-FAJR*, which is faithful to the leftist line in the PLO, also expresses reservations about the visit, although not as sharply as *AL-MITHAQ* does.

On the front page of *AL-FAJR* there is a caricature showing King Husayn in a ridiculous posture, strangling to death the Palestinian people in a loving embrace.

On the front page the paper specifies the limitations imposed by Jordan in crossing the Jordan bridges, and also criticizes Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj, who met 'Arafat on Tuesday.

Contrary to the above papers, *AL-QUDS*, which has the largest circulation in the territories, expresses warm support for the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue; and in an editorial it expresses its belief that the talks held at present in Amman will end successfully.

In a separate item *AL-MITHAQ* reports that at a meeting held on Tuesday between 'Arafat and delegates of the National Council who live in Amman, less than half of those invited attended, while the rest boycotted 'Arafat. Earlier they issued a communique against the visit of 'Arafat in Cairo. They belong to the "Popular Front" and the "Democratic Front."

HA'ARETZ Reports U.S. Optimism on Husayn Talks
TA011018 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Mar 84 p 1

["Exclusive report" from United States by 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Administration will support Jordan's entering negotiations with Israel even if they are not based on the Camp David accords or the Reagan plan. Sources in the administration yesterday explained to *HA'ARETZ* correspondent that the Reagan plan actually calls on the various sides in the Middle East to open negotiations, and, if Husayn responds positively to the U.S. calls for opening a dialogue with Israel, the United States will receive this warmly — even if Husayn declares that his readiness to negotiate bears no relation to the Camp David accords.

In the administration there is cautious optimism about Husayn's willingness to take this step within the next few weeks.

W. Bank Arabs Present Petition to 'Arafat in Jordan
TA291832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] A delegation of Arab leaders from the administered territories presented a petition to PLO chairman Yasir 'Arafat at their meeting last night, according to the East Jerusalem newspaper *AL-QUDS*. The paper, politically aligned with Jordan, said the petition calls on 'Arafat and King Husayn to open a joint political initiative. Today the delegation is to meet with Husayn and present him with the same petition.

Editorial Sees Internal Conflict Over Husayn Offer
TA010814 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 1 Mar 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Husayn Back to Go"]

[Text] On his recent trip to Washington, Labour Party chairman Shim'on Peres was told that King Husayn had informed his American friends he intended to join the peace process with Israel in the next few weeks, with or without Yasir 'Arafat.

If true, this would be a dramatic shift in the Jordanian attitude to participation in peace talks.

King Husayn has long been urged to take that step, but he was unwilling to go it alone. Last April he seemed to have reached a virtual agreement with 'Arafat for a joint move, but it was vetoed by radicals within the PLO. The meeting between the king and the PLO chief in Amman this week appeared to signal a fresh opportunity. But deep differences, for example over the endorsement of Resolution 242, are said to be preventing a deal.

This would mean that, if Husayn is in earnest about taking the plunge, he would have to do it on the basis of a unilateral claim to represent Palestinian interests. Is this likely?

"Sources" in Jerusalem have let it be known that, in the official Israeli view, it is not. The Americans, it is said, are spreading these rumours out of a desire to underscore their ability to take a leading role in settling the Palestinian issue, despite the defeat in Lebanon. But they have erred on the side of unwarranted optimism before, and they are guilty of wishful thinking again.

That may be so. But the cynical Israelis who so lightly dismiss the reports from Washington may themselves be tainted with the same sin. Although officially Israel's government desires nothing better than that Jordan should join the peace process, the prospect of this actually happening is not viewed as an unmixed blessing. On the extreme right fringe of the coalition it is in fact seen as an unmitigated disaster.

For clearly by agreeing to discuss the Reagan plan — which is what the Americans, at least, mean by peace talks — the Hashemite monarch would be forcing Israel either to consent to a formula that, ultimately, spells territorial compromise, or to clash frontally with the U.S. Such a clash might conceivably be averted in this presidential election year, although even that is not entirely assured. In the long run, it would be unavoidable.

Which may be one reason why the sources in Jerusalem would like to believe that, despite his appeals to the Americans to take the diplomatic initiative on the Palestinian issue, Husayn does not intend to lend them a helping hand, even when he claims he does.

Jerusalem Arabic Interviews AL-FAJR Editor

JN291105 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Interview with Hanna Sinyurah, editor in chief of the newspaper *AL-FAJR*, by radio correspondent 'Umar Zaydani; carried within the "With the Events" program; recorded — date not given]

[Text] ['Umar Zaydani] Do you believe that the current session of negotiations between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat will produce any results after the failrue of the first round of talks between them?

[Hanna Sinyurah] In my opinion, there is satisfaction in the occupied territories with the reactivation of Jordanian- Palestinian relations, and with 'Arafat's arrival in Jordan for opening a dialogue between the Palestinian and Jordanian sides on a well-studied basis — and for the establishment of a confederal union between two independent countries.

[Zaydani] Has there been any new developments since the first round? Does 'Arafat, for example, have an authorization this time from the PLO to negotiate with King Husayn?

[Sinyurah] Before leaving for Amman, Yasir 'Arafat held consultations and met with the competent Palestinian bodies. He is resuming the dialogue on the basis of what was decided in the PNC meeting last year, which decided that the PLO will hold negotiations with Jordan on the basis of a confederal union. There are some factions within the PLO, and here in the West Bank, which oppose coordination between Yasir 'Arafat and King Husayn. Nayif Hawatimah is one of these. He is against Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan.

[Zaydani] Will this lead to a division within the PLO?

[Sinyurah] Every person has the right to express his opinion. This is democracy. Dialogue between the Jordanian and Palestinian sides takes place to serve the Palestinian cause. This coordination must take place on all levels and also with all the Arab countries.

[Zaydani] Before leaving for Amman, Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj said that Yasir 'Arafat must accept King Husayn's conditions and that he must reach an agreement with him. Do you believe that King Husayn can represent the Palestinians in light of the fact that Israel rejects holding negotiations with the PLO?

[Sinyurah] Yasir 'Arafat represents the Palestinian people and the PLO in the dialogue with Jordan. The Palestinian people support the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, but on the basis of equality, and the respect of each other rights. This is one of the basic conditions for the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue. The two sides must complement each other and be equal. No one party must control the other party.

[Zaydani] You said that a joint strategy must be reached. In your opinion, on what basis can this strategy be formulated between Jordan and the Palestinians?

[Zanyurah] The basic condition for this joint strategy is that the two sides must have the same right to express their opinion on any dialogue, activity, and negotiations. It is not important who will negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians. What is important is that the party that will negotiate must go back and consult with the Palestinian and Jordanian sides.

[Zaydani] During the past 2 days, Palestinian delegations from the West Bank left for Amman in an attempt to exert their efforts for reaching an agreement between King Husayn and Yasir 'Arafat because they believe that the time factor is not working in the interest of the Palestinians. Do you also share this opinion?

[Sinyurah] I believe that the time factor is not in the interest of the Palestinians as long as there is a single Palestinian. The Palestinian struggle will continue. As everyone knows, the Palestinian people in 1947 and 1948 were no more than 2 million; but in 1984, they are more than 4 million. The Palestinian cause is at its peak now. World awareness of the Palestinian cause exists. We must start a dialogue and prepare methods to settle this cause politically. This is the basis of the Jordanian- Palestinian dialogue. The Palestinian people understand the state of affairs in the Middle East and they are calling for the establishment of peace, and for avoiding war. The Palestinian people are ready to enter into negotiations, but on the basis of respect for their right to self-determination.

MA'ARIV Offers Scenario for Autonomy Agreement

TA291157 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew
29 Feb 84 p 8

[Commentary by Moshe Zaq: "The Agreement That Was Not Signed"]

[Text] The scenario exists even if the event has not yet taken place; it might take place during President Reagan's second term.

On 17 May 1985, the U.S. President gathers the Jordanian king and the Israeli prime minister in the White House and, in a festive ceremony, the three sign an agreement on 5-year autonomy in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District.

"You probably remember that I presented my plan to you on 1 September 1982," President Reagan solemnly declares, "only thanks to our great patience and the vigorous work done by the secretary of state and the ambassadors we succeeded today in laying an important cornerstone to the peace process."

The Israeli prime minister and the Jordanian king shake hands in front of the television cameramen who are happy to immortalize this historical event. President Reagan smiles all around, he is pleased. Only King Husayn is worried. Reports have been reaching him that Hafiz al-Asad has massed three divisions on the Jordanian border and he fears a Syrian attempt to stage a coup d'etat in his country. At this point, he can no longer rely on the IDF to deter the Syrian Army.

The U.S. officials put Husayn at ease. They have received reliable information through the Saudis that Syria will not take any military initiative against the Jordanian-Israeli agreement. They have reason to believe that the Palestinians have finally realized that they cannot miss this opportunity. Based on unofficial contacts several U.S. professors have had with some of 'Arafat's associates, they assess that the Palestinians will not object too much and that they will ultimately come to terms with Husayn's patronage.

The negotiations were difficult and complicated, there were arguments over every comma. The Jordanian representatives did not fail to mention that they are part of the Arab world and that they are bound by a pan-Arab defense pact. Moreover, it was difficult for them to declare normalization because the Arab oil states might cut the financial aid the Jordanian treasury relies upon. Therefore, the search was on for "accommodating" formulas to help Husayn. After all, the U.S. officials said, we should not forget what was the fate of his grandfather, King 'Abdallah, and of As-Sadat after they signed agreements with Israel.

In Israel, there were heated arguments over the concessions made to Husayn and not much proof was needed to show that the security arrangements were insufficient and that the central part of the country would be threatened by Katyushas.

Still, in spite of everything, the agreement is signed. However, Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], Jibril, Nayif Hawatimah and George Habash announce the following day in Damascus that they are the real opposition movement of the Palestinians and that 'Arafat had no right to say "yes" to Husayn. Syria calls an all-Arab conference and announces that it has severed relations with Jordan and that the Palestinians in Jordan are uprising against the central government in Amman. The Jordanian Legion shells a Palestinian refugee camp, awakening the Arabs of Judaea and Samaria to stage demonstrations against Husayn. A delegation on their behalf even appeals to the U.S. ambassador and cautions the United States lest it intervene on Husayn's behalf.

The Americans counsel Husayn not to exacerbate the conflict with the Palestinians. The leaders of the Palestinian opposition gather in Damascus and issue a five-clause ultimatum to the king, the first of which calls for abrogating the agreement with Israel and the second of which calls for the deposal of the Jordanian prime minister and the establishment of a national unity government which would reflect the number of Palestinians within the Jordanian population.

Morocco's King Hassan sends his adviser to mediate between the Jordanian king and Syria and its Palestinian supporters. Meanwhile, disturbances in the Jordanian cities mount and PLO members take vengeance on Husayn supporters in Judaea and Samaria. At the same time, calls mount in Israel against any intervention on behalf of the Jordanian king. Recalling Israel's help in September 1970, Husayn also now does not hesitate to appeal, but Israel does not want to save him this time.

In his distress, Husayn enters negotiations with the Moroccan envoy and, as a first step, expresses his readiness to give up the 17 May 1985 agreement with Israel to save his throne.

However, all this has not and will not happen because Israel cannot be tempted to embroil itself and Jordan in the so-called "Reagan plan."

Husayn is not Al-Jumayyil and the Jordanian Army is not the Lebanese Army. Nevertheless, such a scenario is not only feasible in Lebanon but also in Jordan.

Husayn is smarter, more determined and more daring than Al-Jumayyil; he knows about quelling uprisings against his regime. He has more than once been saved from assassination attempts, and he has more than once outmaneuvered the Damascus rulers and foiled their plots. Nevertheless, Hafiz al-Asad has grown very strong after his "Lebanese experience." He has proved that he can dictate the moves of his Arab neighbors and bar them from any agreement with Israel.

Al-Asad undermined the U.S. settlement in Lebanon fearing that the Reagan plan might isolate him in the Arab world. In other words, he sees the danger the Reagan plan entails for him and will therefore not allow Husayn to join it. Even if Husayn signed an agreement, it would be worthless because Al-Asad would force him to abrogate it.

This has already happened to Al-Jumayyil but not yet to Husayn. The scenario of 17 May 1985 has not yet materialized because Husayn can for the time being rely on Israel which has through the years kept him from coming under Syrian or Egyptian domination.

An agreement based on the Reagan plan might present the

executioner [as published] with the "West Bank" on a platter and the Gaza Strip as a side dish. However, in exchange for a possible link with these territories he might be confronted with serious threats to his regime.

The possibility should not be ruled out that in his meetings with 'Arafat, Husayn is thinking more about a joint effort to curb Hafiz al-Asad than about an agreement on autonomy for Judaea and Samaria.

The fact that Amin al-Jumayyil is being forced to abrogate an agreement which was also signed by the United States has put Husayn on the alert. Therefore, it is very doubtful that he should compete for a similar agreement which might threaten his reign. The Jordanian king is not ignoring his obligations to the Palestinians but he knows that he will not be able to meet all their demands unless he can bring Israel to its knees. From talks with Israeli leaders he knows that the latter will not give up on "everything" and by going for "less than everything" he would be risking a confrontation with Damascus and its Palestinian lackeys. And, Amin al-Jumayyil's bitter experience has shown him that Syrian obstinacy, rather than plain common sense, is what counts.

Bus Stoned Near Halhul, Suspect Detained

TA291834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] A Qiryat Arba' minibus, transporting girls on national service duty, was stoned today in the village of Si'ir near Halhul. The windows of the minibus were smashed. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the security escorts chased the stonethrowers and caught a local store owner who hid the stonethrowers in his shop.

They brought him to the military government in Hebron, and he was detained. The shop owner denies having anything to do with the event.

Our correspondent adds that the phenomenon of stone throwing in the Hebron area has not stopped, and every now and then Israeli cars and buses are stoned.

Further on OAU Council of Ministers Session

At-Turayki Addresses Session

LD291038 Tripoli JANA in English 1432 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jumada al Ulla 24, Feb 28, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, addressed the 40th session of the OAU Foreign Ministers Council which started in the Ethiopian capital yesterday. He talked about several issues and problems facing the African Continent. Referring to the critical period which the OAU experienced, he said the enemies of the continent in that period were working to undermine and destroy the organization, but thanks to the efforts of the faithful leaders of Africa, the continent was able to overcome many fatal incidents which were bound to end the organization forever. This does not mean that the problems facing the OAU have come to and end, he went on, not yet, and that is why efforts should be intensified to that effect and in order to maintain the unity of the organization. Dr at-Turayki added that the imperialist and colonialist forces hostile to our peoples are encouraging internal divisions in the continent in an attempt to dismantle the organization, which after 20 years of its existence became a strong force which is feared and plays an important role as a political force in the world.

He said the guarantee of our freedom as smaller nations stems out of our unity without which we will be exposed once again to colonialism immaterial of our ideology and our economic and social systems. The best evidence of this, he reiterated, is what happened to Grenada. He expressed the importance of intensive efforts to rid Africa of the remaining colonialists, and liberate the parts of Africa still under colonialism and slavery.

He urged support for the Frontline States against the racist regime of South Africa, and pledged the Jamahiriyah's solidarity and support for the Frontline States.

Dr at-Turayki affirmed that Chad's problem is still unsolved despite all the efforts made by the OAU. The colonialist intervention in Chad, and its encouraging of a rebel group which rejects national reconciliation, have led to the failure of OAU efforts to achieve national reconciliation in Chad. This will not discourage us from trying all means to solve this according to the OAU resolutions and Lagos resolutions which were a start of a potential and real solution for the Chadian problem. We can not isolate our problems from other international problems. Take for example the racist regime of South Africa which -- supported by imperialism to strike against the African Frontline Countries -- is a tributary to the Zionist racist regime on the northern borders of Africa. And there are organic ties between both entities and perform similar roles backed by U.S. imperialism injecting them with arms to continue their mission in carrying out imperialist plots to control the regional peoples.

The reasons which made Africa sever relations with the Zionist entity are still valid, and to restore relations with that entity by certain regimes (?are) in fact a support and backing for the racist regime and its occupation of Arab territories and whole Palestine, and also a breach of African unanimity. Dr at-Turayki talked about the economic problems in Africa, pointing to the economic situation is critical, stressing that the political independence will continue to be without content if not accompanied with economic independence and if we do not dismantle imperialist monopolies and colonialist bases in Africa.

Dr at-Turayki concluded by calling for discussing the means necessary to enhance the economy of the continent and maintain our unity, pointing out the need to amend the Charter of the OAU to secure our strength and unity and maintain our march.

Peter Onu Submits Budget

EA291038 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] OAU interim Secretary-General Peter Onu said today that the proposed OAU budget for the financial year 1984-85 is not only modest, but also represents the barest maximum of the Secretariat's need. He told the OAU Ministerial Conference in Addis Ababa that the OAU budget submitted to the conference for consideration and approval is about $25,305,000.

Dr Onu said that unwillingness of the majority of the OAU member states to pay their contributions to the organization has adversely affected the work of the General Secretariat which lives literally from hand to mouth. He added that the appeals made by the current OAU chairman, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, to member states to pay their contributions has yet to yield results.

Dr Onu noted that the OAU Secretariat has embarked on a policy of placing more emphasis on programmes or project-oriented activities, rather than of mission-oriented activities, whose values have (?sometimes) been doubted.

The outgoing chairman of the OAU Council of Ministers, 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, told the opening session yesterday that if Africans could not look beyond their differences towards the goal of African unity, they will be subject to new forms of colonialism and imperialism. He said that despite the fact that member states of the OAU differ in ideologies, they must strive to consolidate the unity of their organization.

Nigerian Concern Over Dues

AB292050 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Nigeria has expressed concern over the unpaid contributions by member states of the OAU.

The country's stand was made known in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, by the minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari. Dr Gambari, who was commenting on the reports presented yesterday by the interim secretary general, Mr Peter Onu, suggested that the penalty stipulated in the organization's financial rules be invoked against defaulters.

According to the OAU financial rules, member states whose outstanding contributions are equal or are in excess of unpaid contributions for 2 fiscal years, should be denied the right to vote. Some member states are owing the organization about 25 million naira in unpaid contributions.

The foreign ministers of the OAU are currently meeting in the Ethiopian capital.

Continuing Contacts on OAU Sidelines

Mengistu Receives Messages

EA291013 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, PMAC and COPWE chairman, commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and current OAU chairman, this afternoon received messages from Presidents Mubarak of Egypt, Nyerere of Tanzania, Hassan Gouled of Djibouti, and Al-Qadhdhafi of the Libyan Jamahiriyah at his COPWE office in Addis Ababa through the foreign ministers of those countries presently attending the OAU Ministerial Council session.

Mengistu, Foreign Ministers Meet

EA292029 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, today received messages sent by the leaders of Mauritania, Gabon, Kenya, and Congo. The foreign ministers of each country participating in the 40th regular session of the OAU Council of Ministers currently under way in Addis Ababa presented the messages through [as heard] their leaders to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam during separate audiences. On the occasion, Comrade Mengistu discussed bilateral and problems of the Western Sahara and Chad with the ministers.

At-Turayki Holds Talks

LD291933 Tripoli JANA in English 1811 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Jumada al Ulla 25, Feb 29, (JANA) — The secretary of the People's Committee of the Foreign Liaison Bureau, Dr 'Ali at-Turayki had talks this morning with the African foreign ministers of Algeria, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Nigeria, and Tanzania. The talks were focused on the current affairs in the continent and on how to settle African differences by the Africans themselves.

LIBYA

'Collapse' of Israeli-Lebanese Agreement Hailed

LD292337 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The collapse of the Zionist-Phalangst 17 May agreement, whose official death announcement is now only a question of time, has come about as a result of huge sacrifice and the blood of caravans of martyrs which the Lebanese Arab people did not hesitate to offer for the sake of Lebanon's Arabism. The bitter struggle these Arab people waged against the Zionist crusaders caused them to flee to the Al-Awali River and to their warships in the sea off the Lebanese Arab shores.

This bitter struggle brought about the collapse of the Zionist-Phalangist 17 May agreement, despite all the American and Zionist warnings and threats against abrogation of this ill-omened agreement, which would have turned this Arab land into a Zionist protectorate in the full sense of the word, and an advanced base for U.S. imperialism which aims at full domination of the Arab region by all means.

The collapse of the 17 May Zionist-Phalangist agreement is not a victory for the Lebanese national forces alone; it is also a victory for the revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland, foremost of which stands the Jamahiriyah, which from the very first day of the signing of this agreement of humiliation called for the declaration of a jihad to end it without any delay.

The collapse of the 17 May Zionist-Phalangist agreement heralds the start of a great mass uprising throughout the Arab homeland which will destroy the dictators, the reactionaries and the infiltrators who ally themselves with the enemies of the Arab nation. Yes, it heralds the fall of Husayn, Husni [Mubarak], 'Arafat and his deviationist clique, and those like them.

The collapse of the 17 May Zionist-Phalangist agreement heralds the greatest tiding: the collapse of the ill-omened, traitorous Camp David accord which fettered Egypt and isolated it from its Arab nation and brought shame and disgrace to it, turning it into a Zionist colony and a free ground for those whom God has cursed in His glorious Koran. This agreement robbed Egypt of its independence and caused it to submit in humiliation to the will of a foreign racist entity whose population does not exceed 3 million. What a farce!

If the Lebanese Arab people, who are small in number, have succeeded by their struggle, blood and the caravans of sacrifices to bring about the collapse of the traitorous 17 May agreement and inflict defeat on the Zionists and the crusaders, then the Egyptian Arab people, who executed the vanquished As-Sadat, have no alternative today but to follow the example of the Lebanese Arab people and rise to break the fetters with which As-Sadat's heir is trying to shackle them further, and to tear up the traitorous Camp David accord which brought disgrace to the Arab people of Egypt.

The collapse of the 17 May Zionist-Phalangist agreement and the flight of the Zionists and crusaders from Lebanon has restored to the Arab nation its dignity and affirmed that a people's war is the means to the final, decisive victory over the enemies of our nation and the liberation of Palestine and every inch of Arab land still suffering under the boot of the Zionist-Phalangist agreement. The flight of the Zionists and the crusaders confirms and corroborates what the revolutionary force in the Jamahiriyah meant when it declared at the start of this year that 1984 will be the year of challenge and the crushing of the enemies of the Arab nation.

Turkish Minister of State Concludes Visit

Planning Minister Receives Visitor

LD291212 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0930 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Feb (JANA) — The secretary of the People's General Committee for Planning, Fawzi al-Shakshuki, yesterday evening received Turkish Minister of State [title as received] Ismail Ozdaglar.

In the course of the meeting, which was attended by the Turkish ambassador to the Jamahiriyah, various aspects of cooperation between the two countries and the means of bolstering them in a way that will serve the interests of the Arab Libyan and Turkish peoples were discussed.

Visitor Signs Agreement, Departs

LD291959 Tripoli JANA in English 1832 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Ulla 25, Feb 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Turkish minister of state and his delegation left Tripoli for home today after an official visit to the Jamahiriyah where he had talks with the secretary of the General People's Committee on bilateral cooperation.

During the visit, he signed the minutes of the proposed agreement between the two countries.

Army Chief Jabir Receives Lebanese Official

LD291035 Tripoli JANA in English 0954 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Al Ulla 25, Feb. 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the armed forces, has received 'Abd ar-Rahim Murad, secretary general of Lebanese Arab Socialist Union Party.

National Debate on Arab Unity Concludes

LD292024 Tripoli JANA in English 1818 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al-Ulla 25, Feb 29, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — A national debate on a realistic assessment for Arab unity ended its work yesterday afternoon.

The participants issued a statement in which they pointed out

that the debate had strongly argued in favor of emphasizing the Arab identity as the major factor in the imperialist-Zionist-Arab conflict. They also pointed out that there are still serious shortcomings in our struggle to gain victory over our enemy: such as underdevelopment, the elite-masses gap and the domination of the region by regimes and classes whose interests are counter to the nature of unity.

Nevertheless, the statement stressed the present situation could be changed and that Arab unity could be achieved through organized popular struggle. It added that national unity is the strongest weapon in fighting backwardness, noting the contribution of the Arabs in human civilization and protecting the national identity from imperialist-Zionist threat. The statement then noted the efforts made by the Jamahiriyah in this debate by saying: "Our debate has been [word indistinct] welcomed by the people of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and their revolutionary leadership. The ideological contribution of the Libyan Arab participants and their presentation of the people experiment has given the debate a revolutionary flavor and supplied it with the spirit of free discussion".

The participants noted that Arab unity is the most essential factor in winning the national battle. The Arab nation should go beyond regionalism into a new era where they would launch a cultural military and political battle against imperialism, Zionism and reactionaryism. During that era, the statement went on to say, the Arab nation would only be motivated by the 'ocean to the Gulf unity factor' [as received]. Then, it said, the Arab nation would be in a position to utilize their resources in creating the conditions necessary for achieving unity.

In the statement, the participants expressed their commitment to work towards Arab unity, liberating Palestine and all occupied Arab land. They called on the Arab thinkers, intellectuals, and political and trade union groups who are committed to the goal of unity to promote its struggle by avoiding the regionalism obstacle, staying close to the Arab masses and by allying themselves with the revolutionary forces whose major interest is the establishment of the state of Arab unity.

The debate issued the following recommendations:

1. The necessity of following up the debate resolutions. Every participant has a personal responsibility in this respect. Moreover, the formation of a coordination committee which would work with permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress.

2. Organization of a national conference whose objective would be to formulate a national unity charter and the establishment of a program for achieving Arab unity. The permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress was instructed to carry out this duty.

3. To work towards publicizing the cause of Arab unity by publishing simplified unity studies searches throughout the Arab world.

4. To increase assistance to the National Council for Arab Culture in order to enable it to carry out its duty towards Arab unity.

5. To hold an Arab debate whose subject of study would be the "people's experience in the Jamahiriyah".

The debate also issued the "Tripoli Document on Arab Unity," which includes both the theoretical and the practical aspects of Arab unity.

MAURITANIA

'Strict Neutrality' Observed on SDAR Issue

AB291745 Paris AFP in English 0919 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Dakar, Feb 29 (AFP) — Mauritania will observe "strict neutrality" concerning the conflict in the Western Sahara following Nouakchott's recognition of the Sahara Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR) proclaimed by the Polisario Front fighting Morocco for control of the territory, RNRI Nouakchott said in a broadcast monitored here.

The broadcast yesterday called Mauritania's decision Monday to join the 26 other African countries recognizing the SDAR an act "of sovereignty and principle," aimed at contributing to a "just and lasting peace in the Maghreb."

Mauritania dropped its claim to the Western Sahara in 1979, leaving Morocco alone to fight the Polisario Front for control of the territory, which Spain abandoned in 1976. In 1975, the World Court ruled that neither Mauritania nor Morocco was entitled to the Western Sahara, and that the inhabitants had the right to self-determination.

Radio Nouakchott said that Mauritania's decision to recognize the SDAR should strengthen [word indistinct] authority of the Organization of African Unity, which has called for a cease-fire between Morocco and the Polisario Front and a self-determination referendum.

MOROCCO

Mauritania's Recognition of SDAR Criticized

Secretary Tazi Scores Move

LD291432 Rabat MAP in English 1223 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Rabat, Feb 29. (MAP) — Nouakchott's decision to recognize the so-called "Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic" — a puppet state proclaimed by the Algerian-backed guerilla movement, the Polisario, which claims sovereignty over the Moroccan Sahara — "is a deliberate refusal of the unique and just solution that was proposed by King Hassan II of Morocco during the 18th OAU summit in Nairobi which calls for a cease-fire and the organizing of a referendum," Moroccan Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Abdelhaq Tazi said.

In a declaration published this Wednesday in the Moroccan daily

L'OPINION, the organ of the Istiqlal Party, Mr Tazi said recognition of the so-called "SDAR" by Nouakchott is a surprise to no one, as Mauritanian leaders, despite their declarations of neutrality, have always acted as the spokesmen for Algeria's mercenaries.

Mr Tazi outlined further that Nouakchott's decision was part of the propaganda campaign launched by the foes of Morocco's territorial integrity on the occasion of every meeting of the OAU or the United Nations. This decision, he added, is also part of the scheme for the creation of the grand Maghreb as conceived by Algeria.

"It is merely a new facet of the hegemonist strategy aimed at destabilizing and Balkanizing our sub-region; a great Maghreb where the spirit of hegemony and the policy of diktat will prevail, instead of the spirit of cooperation," Mr Tazi concluded.

Media Comments on Decision

LD291512 Rabat MAP in English 1235 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Rabat, Feb 29 (MAP) — Most of the Moroccan dailies have commented on the Mauritanian decision to recognize the so-called "Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SDAR)".

AL-'ALAM (mouthpiece of the social-democrat Istiqlal party) wrote that this recognition is a suprise to no one, and especially not to Morocco who was prepared for such a possibility. "The Nouakchott decision," the daily added, "is therefore but a gratuitous operation which has no impact on either the military or political levels".

"The question relating to the recognition or non-recognition," *AL-'ALAM* pointed out, "is left behind by the OAU after it adopted the Nairobi Resolution (1981) which is in keeping with the credibility of the organization". The Nouakchott decision, the daily concluded, will serve neither peace and security in the region nor in Mauritania".

The socialist daily *AL-ITTIHAD AL-ISHTIRAKI* underlined that Nouakchott, by means of its decision, is setting up a new obstacle with regard to the efforts for a definitive solution to the Sahara problem. The daily noted: "It is at the moment when the OAU is examining the Sahara question... that the Nouakchott regime, which is making of its territories a logistic base for the separatists, chose to announce its decision to recognize the pseudo-SADR." After it underlined that "the aim of Nouakchott was to thwart any attempt to find a solution to the artificial problem of Sahara," the daily concluded that "the stand of Mauritania is not only an act directed against Morocco, but is also directed against any peaceful solution to the Sahara question."

L'OPINION (French language organ of the Istiqlal Party) said that this attitude (the recognition of the "SDAR" by Mauritania) "is against the OAU resolutions" and torpedoes "efforts to find a just solution to the conflict" by giving "a blow to the edification of the grand Maghreb." *L'OPINION* concluded that the decision will not alter the position of Morocco.

RISALAT AL-'UMMAH (Constitutional Union) wrote that Mauritania is henceforth party to the Sahara conflict, explaining that it is from Mauritanian territories that attacks on Morocco are being launched. The daily, deploring the new attitude of Mauritania, estimated that Mauritania "lost its independence under Algerian pressure, and that it is no longer able to control either its territories or its policy".

LE MATIN DU SAHARA (pro-government) editorialized that the Nouakchott government is playing "the role assigned to it in anticipation of the OAU summit". Mauritania revealed its intention to recognize the so-called "SDAR" a long time ago, the daily added, but it had delayed this decision to better insert it in ...coarse schemes. [sentence as received] This alters nothing, *LE MATIN DU SAHARA* said. "We perfectly control the situation both on the military and political levels. The 'Polisario' has become a myth. Everybody agrees on the necessity of holding a referendum," the daily added.

Minister Begins African Tour With Hassan Message

LD292152 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II today sent messages to the heads of the state of the Ivory Coast, Gabon, Nigeria and Zaire. These royal messages are carried by Abbas el Fassi, minister of traditional industry and social affairs. At Mohamed V airport, the minister spoke to the radio correspondent about this mission:

[Begin el Fassi recording] It is known that close ties and good relations exist between his majesty the king and their excellencies, the heads of these states. It will be an occasion for clarifying Morocco's position on recent developments in the conflict in northwestern Africa. This tour will also be an occasion for stressing Morocco's readiness for a referendum in the southern provinces as soon as possible in accordance with the Nairobi summit resolutions, and in accordance with the conclusions of the follow-up committee.

We will also reaffirm Morocco's desire for legitimacy, for the unity of ranks and for salvaging the OAU. Thank you. [end recording]

Parliamentary Elections Said Postponed Again

LD291811 Kuwait KUNA in English 1518 GMT 29 Feb 84

[By Atif Odeh]

[Excerpt] Rabat, Feb 29 (KUNA) — Moroccan partisan circles affirmed here Wednesday that parliamentary elections have been put off for the second time to an undetermined date.

The postponement was certified after the 35-day legal period for the pre-announcement of election day had elapsed. Moroccan law stipulates that the legislative session should begin in the second week of April.

The parliamentary elections in the summer of 1983 were postponed on orders from King Hassan because of a proposed referendum on the Western Sahara which was due in the end of that year, but did not take place in view of political differences over the issue. The postponement, at that time, was backed nationwide and led to the formation of a national coalition government under Mohammed Karim Lamrani in which the opposition shared as a sign of good intentions in response to a royal call.

Observers here believe that the second postponement was necessitated by difficult economic problems which preoccupied the government of Lamrani. The government's foremost priority at present is to fight the repercussions of the severe drought, the Saharan war, and the soaring prices of energy and the dollar.

ETHIOPIA

USSR Delegation Arrives for Talks 29 Feb

EA291233 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Summary] A Soviet delegation led by Vladimir Lakhtin, deputy chairman of the Soviet State Planning Committee, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning on a 1-week working visit to Ethiopia. The delegation will hold discussions with Ethiopian Government officials on economic cooperation between the two countries.

KENYA

Nairobi, Tanzania Sign Trade Agreement

EA291616 Nairobi KNA in English 1325 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Nairobi: Kenya and Tanzania today signed a bilateral trade agreement which sought to strengthen and improve cooperation in the fields of trade between the two countries.

The minister for commerce and industry, Mr Andrew Omanga, signed on behalf of Kenya, and Tanzanian Minister for Trade Mr S.M. Nyanganyi signed for his country.

Also present at the ceremony were the Ministry of Commerce and Industry permanent secretary, Mr J.W. Githuku; Tanzania Director of Foreign Trade Mr B.K.J. Kapya; and other senior officers representing various government ministries and institutions.

In a joint communique issued after the 2-day deliberations, the two ministers expressed their concern on the existence of illegal trade and smuggling in [words indistinct], and confirmed the determination of the two countries to intensify efforts to combat the undesirable trade practices.

They appealed to the governors and the directors of foreign exchange control of the central banks to hold discussions aimed at improving the mode of payments.

The discussions, which were held in a frank and cordial atmosphere, reflected the friendly and brotherly relations existing between the two countries, the communique said.

Noting that the list of goods of export interest of both countries has now been formally exchanged as agreed at Arusha, the ministers said that they were satisfied with the progress made towards effecting the ratification of the trade agreement already concluded.

Deciding to hold the next meeting in Tanzania, the two ministers agreed there was need for regular consultations between the two sides in future.

Briefs

Official Relieved of Duties — It has been announced by the Office of the President that an assistant minister for information and broadcasting, Mr Francis Lotodo, has been relieved of his duties with immediate effect. [Text] [Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 27 Feb 84 EA]

Departing PRC Envoy — Nairobi -- The minister for agriculture and livestock development, Mr William Odongo Omamo, has thanked the Government of China for the assistance it has given to Kenya in the fields of technology, agriculture, and in exchange of cultural programmes. Mr Omamo expressed the hope that the good relations existing between the two countries will continue to be strengthened even further by exchanging development ideas. The minister, who was receiving the outgoing Chinese ambassador to Kenya, Mr Yang Keming, in his office today, observed that China has contributed immensely to the country's development, the latest being the construction of the new sports complex at Kasarani. [Excerpt] [Nairobi KNA in English 1840 GMT 23 Feb 84 EA]

Envoy to UN — Kenya's new permanent representative at the United Nations, Ambassador Raphel Kiilu, has arrived in New York to take up his post. [Excerpt] [Nairobi KNA in English 0727 GMT 16 Feb 84 EA]

Cholera Outbreak — Two people have died and 13 were admitted to the hospital following cholera outbreak in Nyanza province. A team of medical specialists has been fighting the scourge since 15th February. [Excerpt] [Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 24 Feb p 3 EA]

CAMEROON

Canada Grants 24.6 Billion CFA Francs Loan

AB292040 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Canadian Government today granted a total of 24.6 billion CFA francs as loan in aid of various rural and urban development projects. Loan agreement was signed this afternoon by the minister of state in charge of planning and territorial development on the first working day of the visit of the Canadian external relations minister [title as heard], the Honorable Jean-Luc Pepin. Fifteen of the 24 billion francs will finance the purchase of Canadian goods and services for priority projects in the areas of transport and communications, energy and education, and agro-industry.

Tribunal Issues Warrant for Ahidjo's Arrest

AB291426 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Military Tribunal has issued a warrant for the arrest of former President Ahmadou Ahidjo who was condemned to death by firing squad yesterday. The tribunal found Mr Ahidjo and his two aides, Captain Adamou Salatou and Commander Ibrahima Oumarou, guilty of plotting to assassinate the head of state and jeopardizing state security.

MALI

Traore Addresses National Council Session

AB291230 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Excerpts] At 0900 this morning, the president of the Republic opened the annual session of the party's National Council. This 3-day session, to be held at the People's Palace, will bring together 201 delegates out of the (?230) National Council members. Five items appeared on the agenda of this meeting. In his 30-page, 27-minute speech, President Moussa Traore reviewed the actions and measures undertaken to identify the problems that need to be resolved, and to set new directives for the entire party. Listen:

[Begin Traore recording] Ladies and gentlemen, members of the National Council of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM], it is now a well established tradition of our party, the UDPM, to hold an important session of its national leadership at the beginning of each year, and this is a statutory rule that we are observing in 1984. The current sessions have a special character, on the one hand, because of the renewed outbreak of drought which once again strongly affects our country. This is a calamity against which all the people, with the aid and assistance of the party and government, must be mobilized. On the other hand, it is timely — 2 years after the first ordinary congress of our party — to review actions taken, identify problems to be solved, and fix new directives for all party organs. Thus, the current session is the most propitious occasion to lay the foundations for the first directives that are to serve in the preparation of the second ordinary congress.

I think it expedient in the first place, that the party increase its capacity for reflection, analysis, and action. To achieve this, the permanent political and civic education of the party's militants is necessary, and party leaders especially should take more initiatives in this regard. It is necessary to now note that henceforth, party leaders will be assisted in this task by the party school.

Second, all party organs must make certain that our party's democratic open-door policy, one of the guarantors of its life, is wisely used. The cause of loyal party militants must be protected against every ill-timed attempt by wealthy militants to evict them from their positions during elections. You must see to it that the next elections assume this democratic aspect, which is the watchword of our party. In this connection, all clannishness must be banished and you must demand loyalty, moral integrity, and effective action from the officers you elect. The party must oppose all new factions, and to eliminate them in the long run, it must be said that this concerns pressure groups inspired by the feeling of the power of their money and other antidemocratic forces. [applause]

Third, I think all party organs should continue the effort in the future to have the people participate in nation-building. They should be closely associated in the identification, choice, and implementation of projects. The aim is to immediately increase production and improve productivity.

Fourth, I think the party must see to it that the set objectives that led to our rejoining the West African Monetary Union [UMOA] yield good dividends. We must make sure that the people are prepared against the effects of price speculation. There will be no increases because the government will maintain a price freeze to preserve the purchasing power of workers. Each consumer has the duty to denounce any illicit price increase.

The restructuring of our economy, to which must be attached the accompanying measures of our entry into the UMOA, should take the drought into account. I will particularly insist on the participation of the party in the task of development, not only at the conceptual level, but also, and especially, at the level of information, preliminary sensitization, and effective participation of militants. It is a question of setting up the appropriate mechanism that will permit the rapid definition of set goals immediately attainable by the people within the limits of their resources. Such steps will increase our ability to adapt to the drought, a disaster which appears to have come to stay and which, in the future, should be considered a permanent factor in our destiny. It would be especially proper that henceforth our projects be conceived on the basis of current water resources and rainfall data. In a nutshell, our economy must absorb the drought.

Ladies and gentlemen, members of the National Council, the political, economic, and social preoccupations confronting us should not allow us to forget our education in matters of foreign policy. Thus, you will be called upon to discuss positions taken by the party and government on current burning issues in Africa, the Middle East, and rest of the world. Our position is always to be on the side of people fighting for their unity, independence, and territorial integrity.

Ladies and gentlemen of the National Council, I hope you will see to it that opportunists do not infiltrate our party mechanism, and that you make self-sufficiency in food production your major concern. [applause] [end recording]

Traore Receives Sankara Envoy 28 Feb

AB291330 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] The head of state this morning received in audience Mr Adama Toure, Upper Voltan minister of information. The Upper Voltan envoy brought a message from Chairman Thomas Sankara to General Moussa Traore. The strengthening of bilateral relations between Bamako and Ouagadougou, and the strengthening of friendship and fraternity between the two peoples were the principal topics discussed at this audience. Present on the Upper Voltan side were Mr Michel Tapsoba, secretary general in charge of rural development; Paul Kabore, director general of international cooperation; and Mr (Marcel), the technical adviser at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On the Malian side were Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation; Mrs Gakou Fatou Niang, minister of information and telecommunications; Mr Mohamed Aoudou Seni Toure, secretary general at the Presidency; and Mr Tidjani Cisse, diplomatic adviser to the head of state. At the end of the audience, the Upper Voltan minister of information stated the purpose of his visit to Oumar Toure:

[Begin recording] [Adama] I brought a message from the chairman of the National Revolutionary Council [CNR], Thomas Sankara, to his friend General Moussa Traore, president of the Republic of Mali. It concerns the renewal of the friendship and solidarity of the Upper Voltan people, its CNR, and chairman, Chairman Thomas Sankara, with the Malian people, its president, General Moussa Traore, and its party, the Democratic Union of Malian People. Therefore, it concerns the renewal of friendship, the reaffirmation of the determination of the Upper Voltan people and its leader to pursue efforts in this direction [words indistinct].

[Oumar] You are leading a high-level delegation.Do you plan to hold discussions [words indistinct] in Mali?

[Adama] I arrived with two Ministry of Foreign Affairs' officials,and the secretary general of the Ministry of Rural Development, who is charged with holding talks with Malian comrades on cooperation and Malian agropastoral experience. We are aware to what extent Mali has gained experience in this field — experience from which we hope to benefit. The two foreign affairs officials are here to accompany me to convey the message of the Upper Voltan head of state, and there are journalists who accompanied me in order to confer with their counterparts of the Malian information service on what they can do jointly. I did this simply because I have learned that a one of my classmates from the University of Dakar is the [Malian] minister of information, and I said to myself that I would like to come over with a number of experts as contacts with the Malian experts will not pose any problems. This is why I came along with four journalists, who will take time to visit the information services and premises of the sister Republic of Mali.

[Oumar] In the field of information, is there a particular sector in which the Upper Voltan information officials are interested?

[Adama] The sector that most interests us at the moment is the press. We are busily preparing a daily in Upper Volta, something we lack. Up to now we have not had up a state daily in Upper Volta. We are preparing it and intend to launch it in early April during the international seminar on the press which, [words indistinct] the Malian comrades. I am familiar with their daily press experience. Also a newspaper, *FIGARO*, of the rural press, interests me very much. Our journalists will discuss all of this with their Malian comrades and once again learn from Mali's experience in this sphere. [end recording]

Head of State General Moussa Traore has charged the Upper Voltan envoy with conveying to Chairman Thomas Sankara the readiness of Mali and its leaders to strengthen relations between our two countries and to transmit the fraternal greetings of the Malian people to the people of Upper Volta.

NIGERIA

Oil Exports Drop 51 Percent Between 1980-1983

AB291750 Lagos NAN in English 1530 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 29 (NAN) — Nigeria's crude oil export dropped by 51 percent from 675.5 million barrels in 1980 to 336.3 million barrels in 1983, an investigation by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) has shown.

The sharpest drop was in 1981, when crude oil exports declined to 447.9 million barrels, a fall of 33.69 percent from the previous year. The trend continued in 1982 with a decline of 18.32 percent, while the situation eased off in 1983 as crude oil exports went down by 8.07 percent to 336.4 million barrels.

A chart on the regional distribution of Nigerian crude oil exports-from 1980 to 1983 shows that 222.3 million barrels, representing 66.09 percent of 1983 exports, was sold in Western Europe. Crude oil exports to other African countries stood at 8.03 million barrels, the lowest in 1983. Exports to North America for the year was 77.7 million barrels, while that of Caribbean islands was 20.2 million barrels, and that of Latin America stood at 8.1 million barrels.

Sources at the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) said that although the bulk of Nigerian crude oil exports went to Western Europe, the U.S. remained Nigeria's single largest customer.

Lagos, Saudi Arabia To Increase Cooperation

AB281710 Lagos NAN in English 1617 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 28 (NAN) — Nigeria and Saudi Arabia have agreed to increase areas of cooperation between them, a government statement said in Lagos today.

In the statement, signed by the chief press secretary to the head of state, Malam Wada Maida, the government said that the two countries expressed satisfaction with the high level of contacts and consultations between them. The agreement to widen their areas of cooperation followed a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia by Brig Tunde Idiagbon. Brig Idiagbon and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia also expressed the hope for increased cooperation among members of OPEC. They stressed the need for a lasting solution to the Chadian crisis, the Gulf war, and the crisis in Lebanon. Brig Idiagbon and his entourage are expected back in Lagos today.

Commentary on SWAPO Efforts for Independence

AB292053 Lagos International Service in English 1430 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Deli Kuku commentary]

[Text] The proposed rally by SWAPO scheduled for March this year in Namibia is no doubt a positive move in the political mobilization of the Namibian people. In the past 3 years, SWAPO has not got the opportunity to propagate its cause publicly since the racist regime in South Africa has stifled all rights for such speech and the democratic aspirations in that country. Although the possibility of SWAPO holding such a rally still hangs on the approval of the chief magistrate in Windhoek, since political organizations should obtain (?legal) permission to hold meetings in Namibia, the benefit of such a rally cannot be underestimated. This is so because SWAPO has more or less

been a party in exile since most of its political activities are done outside Namibia. And this must have affected the influence of the party within the country. Although SWAPO is not a proscribed movement in Namibia, (?the point is) that its constitution has been banned, which in practice means that the organization cannot operate since constitutions form the framework in which any organization survives. With such a rally, therefore, the Namibian people will surely have the opportunity to express their views and solidarity with SWAPO, which is the only recognized movement by the OAU in Namibia.

According to SWAPO, the rally was planned to express the organization's views on the present disengagement of racist South Africa from southern Angola and the Multiparty Conference formed by six other political parties to draw up plans for the immediate future of Namibia. Already, South Africa is trying to deprive the Namibian people of their rights to a genuine independence. It is doing everything to prop up puppet political organizations so as to make Namibia's independence unrealistic if a program becomes valid. Therefore, apart from the liberation wars being pursued by SWAPO, it must also counter the propaganda (?works) of the racist regime, and such a political rally will surely play the necessary role in that direction.

It must be emphasized that SWAPO must continue with its liberation war, since it is doubtful if the puppet regime in Windhoek will grant such a rally with its political implications.

As for the racists, they must realize that the suppression of a people's right to self-determination cannot go on for long. Rally or no rally, for the realization of Namibia's independence, it is just a question of time.

Daily Voices Satisfaction Over Talks With Libya

AB291532 Lagos International Service in English 1430 GMT 29 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] *THE GUARDIAN* expresses satisfaction with the results of last week's talks between Nigeria and Libya. It strongly believes that the outcome will not only improve the two countries' relations, but will ultimately enhance pan-African understanding.

More on Yola Clashes, Buhari's Visit, Situation

Further on Buhari's Visit

AB291955 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, today paid a visit to Jimeta, the scene of last Monday's religious riots in Gongola State, to see things for himself. Mohammed Okorojo was on the scene and now reports.

[Begin recording] [Okorojo] The devastation to property was heavy and so also the casualty toll compared with previous [words indistinct] the country. The entire Jimeta main market [words indistinct], completely razed. All wares and stores were also burned, and so were scores of [word indistinct]. Personal houses, mosques, [words indistinct] and other public utilities were wantonly destroyed by these titanic followers of Maitafine, now known in Gongola as the arch deamon of Nigerian religious [word indistinct].

As the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari went around the scenes of all this in (Masalawu), (Benbene), and (Ronde) areas in [name indistinct] in the outskirts of Yola, it was apparent that he was deeply touched and at the same time [word indistinct] at the atrocities perpetrated by men to men in the name of religion. The General Hospital wards were filled with wounded and maimed victims, among them the Maitatsine adherents who did not seem to be moved a bit by the enormity of the sins they had committed and the wrath of Allah they are incurring in using his name in vain and in pursuance of their devilish acts. The streets were littered with bodies and humanitarian workers were still removing the bodies, often badly charred and [word indistinct]. At the roundabout leading on to (Dubele) Quarters, hundreds of people had gathered and wanted to be allowed a head-on clash with the Maitatsine group who had [words indistinct] and were daring anyone to (?engage) them in armed conflict. The police were having a hell of a job trying to stop the people who were demanding guns to protect themselves, and [words indistinct] if the police and the Army could not silence the insurgents.

But the police were under strict orders not to kill but to take the dissidents alive [words indistinct], a directive which came today, making things [words indistinct] but nonetheless very humane and mature of the authorities. [passage indistinct]

After [words indistinct] harm done by the religious fanatics, Gen Buhari drove to the palace of the Lamido of Adamawa, Alhaji Mustapha Aliyu, where he wrapped up his feelings and [words indistinct] gave his views about the [word indistinct] of the situation and what the government intends to do in [passage indistinct].

The head of state's [words indistinct] by the Lamido, who took the opportunity to welcome the general on his first visit since assuming office, and recounted the harrowing afflictions of his people in the not so distant past, including the scourges of drought and rindepest. [passage indistinct]

After all was said and done, it is now apparent that the Maitatsine uprisings have become perennial, and this makes people want to know what the authorities are really doing to contain the [word indistinct] once and for all. The explanation by the Gongola State commissioner of police, Alhaji Nuhu Aliyu, in his briefing to the head of state, said the existence of the group had been known since 1982, and that they were left alone because they did not breach the law, [words indistinct]. For action had been taken [word indistinct] to monitor their activities more closely and even get them dispersed, the present outburst would not have occurred. After all, the Maitatsine sect had been outlawed, [therefore] anyone making claim to it, however remotely, ought to have been treated like an outlaw. This is the way most

Gongolas feel, like one of them I spoke with whose suggestion [words indistinct] to the recurring problem. [passage indistinct]

In [words indistinct], the Maitatsine uprising is a problem that has to be uprooted once and for all before it grows out of proportion. [passage indistinct] This, besides, the Gongolans believe that what is most paramount is that the military, in its professional task, should keep these (?confusionists) and their demagogues in check, in a more courageous manner, for to them, it is the best way to ward off a sect which is hardened enough to believe that they lead their lives in the service of their mentor [words indistinct], and to vow that they will first take as many lives as possible of those they describe as unclean and unbelievers with whom they cannot interact in whatever form. In short, [words indistinct] is the only language people of that level of callousness can understand, and definitely a lasting solution to the sadly recurrent uprisings. [end recording]

Buhari Returns to Lagos

AB011035 Lagos NAN in English 0950 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 29 (NAN) -- The head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, has returned to Lagos after a brief visit to Yola, in connection with religious disturbances there. He was met on arrival at Murtala Muhammed International Airport, IKEJA, by top government officials.

Maj Gen Buhari was accompanied on the trip by the inspector general of police, Etim Inyang, Rear-Admiral V.L. Oduwaiye of the supreme headquarters Brig A.B. Mamman.

Vigilantes, Police Fight Fanatics

AB010835 Lagos NAN in English 0825 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Yola, 1 Mar (NAN) — Hundreds of Jimeta youths yesterday formed themselves into vigilante groups to assist the anti-riot policemen to dislodge the religious fanatics from their Dobeli stronghold. A NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent who went to the scene of action saw the youths armed with clubs and machetes, and being supervised by the police standing in readiness in case of an attack by the fanatics.

As at yesterday afternoon, during the head of state's visit to the scene, the whole area had been cordoned off by the police and the vigilante groups, and both the law enforcement agents and the fanatics were sizing up each other.

Some of the vigilante groups told NAN that yesterday morning the fanatics, on their own accord, released six women and some children who were held as captives.

The Gongola commissioner of police, Nutu Aliyu, yesterday told the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari, that his command had received instructions from Lagos urging them to be more tactical to forestall much killings in the operations.

Relief for Strife Victims

AB010718 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The Federal Military Government [FMG] is to send relief materials to victims of last Monday's religious disturbance in Gongola State. The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, made this known while exchanging views with the lamido of Adamawa, Alhaji Mustapha Aliyu, at his palace yesterday. Gen Buhari, who had gone to condole the people of the area, asked law enforcement agencies to be more vigilant. He said they should keep watching the movements of the religious fanatics to prevent future occurrences. The head of state also pledged the government's assistance to [words indistinct] which were damaged by drought and rinderpest.

Replying, the lamido of Adamawa expressed gratitude to the FMG for giving assistance for the victims of the riot. A Radio Nigeria correspondent on the trip said that latest figures show that 137 people were killed and 58 were wounded, while 713 were arrested for their part in the riot.

The inspector general of police, Etim Inyang, and the director of state administration at the supreme headquarters, Rear Admiral Victor (Oduaye), were in the head of state's entourage.

States To Distribute Essential Commodities

AB291700 Lagos NAN in English 1325 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 29 (NAN) — Essential commodities are to be distributed by state governments through their local governments, the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, said in Lagos yesterday. He told a delegation of traditional rulers from Bendel, which called on him at Dodan Barracks, that state governors had been instructed to ensure that the commodities reached all parts of their states.

Gen Buhari said that state and local governments would be involved in the distribution of the commodities until the market situation in the country returned to normal. The leader of the delegation and Oba [title of traditional ruler] of Benin, Omo N'oba Erediauwa, pledged the support of traditional rulers in the state for the federal government.

Also yesterday, Gen Buhari received another delegation of traditional rulers from Ondo State. The delegation, led by the Olojudo of Iido-Ekiti, Oba Adeyemi Olayisade II, pledged its support for the Federal Government. Gen Buhari told the delegation that the Federal Military Government would not take over the responsibilities of the states. The payment of workers' salaries, he said, was the exclusive responsibility of the states, adding that states should make savings to meet their commitments. [sentence as received]

University Closed to Avoid Disturbances

AB291636 Lagos NAN in English 1320 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Port Harcourt, Feb 29 (NAN) — The University of Port Harcourt has been closed and the Students' Union Executive

dissolved, the registrar of the institution, Mr Meshack Akpe, has said.

Mr Akpe said in a circular issued on Monday that the University Senate decided to close the school because of "gross intransigence and impending threat to peace and harmony on campus." He said that the Students' Congress had, in a meeting held on February 22, decided to boycott classes, go on hunger strike, and hold a demonstration to air their grievances. The registrar said that the students' Executive Council refused to honour invitations from the vice chancellor to discuss their grievances in spite of appeals by the dean of student affairs.

Mr Akpe also said that the president of the Students' Union, Mr Sampson Ngerebara, had been suspended indefinitely and forbidden entry into the campus until a committee set up to investigate his activities had submitted its report.

In a reaction, Mr Ngerebara said that they were shocked by the decision of the Senate to close the school because "We have no major complaint against the authorities." He denied the allegations that the students planned to go on hunger strike, boycott classes, and demonstrate.

Purported Letter From Mohammed Seized in Kano

AB011115 Lagos NAN in English 1010 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Kano, Feb 29 (NAN) — The police in Kano yesterday arrested some people for circulating a letter purported to have written by Prophet Mohammed.

An investigation by the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) revealed that the letter, which was said to have been received in Mecca, was taken to Medina — both in Saudi Arabia — from where it was taken to Egypt before it was brought toNigeria. On reaching Nigeria, the investigation further showed, the letter was first taken to Kakuwa in Borno State from where it was brought to Kano.

Excerpts from the letter, read by the Kano commissioner for information, Alhaji Ibrahim Ismaila, "enjoined Muslims all over the world to offer animals in sacrifice and special prayers, and to recite certain verses in the Holy Koran to God in view of the imminent calamities that would befall mankind."

The commissioner, however, described the letter as an obnoxious document, and warned that any person or group of persons found circulating it would be dealt with.

SENEGAL

Two French Aid Agreements Signed 28 Feb

AB291102 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 28 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Mamadou Toure, minister of economy and finance, and Mr Mathe, head of the French mission for cooperation in Senegal, this afternoon signed two agreements involving the sum of 440 million CFA francs. Under the first agreement, a sum of 250 million CFA francs will be used to finance a rural development project in Upper Casamance. The second agreement involves a sum of 190 million CFA francs which will be used for extension works at Ziguinchor Hospital.

Briefs

Envoy to Tokyo— Keba Birane Cisse, ambassador of Senegal to Japan, has also been named ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Senegal to Indonesia with residence in Tokyo. [Excerpt][Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 28 Feb 84 AB]

ANGOLA

Jorge Interviewed on Accord With S. Africa

PM291559 Paris LIBERATION in French 25-26 Feb 84 p 22

[Interview with Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge by Pierre Haski in Luanda — date not given]

[Excerpt] *LIBERATION*: What prompted Angola to negotiate with the South Africans?

Paulo Jorge: The Angolan Government's position since independence has been to work for good-neighborly relations with all countries in the region and to help remove tensions. Thus, we have made every effort, at the bilateral level and in international bodies, to achieve a solution to the problem which directly affects us — the Namibian problem. It is important to remember that the Angolan people have made enormous sacrifices, because its obvious that only Namibia's independence can bring us peace. Namibia is illegally occupied by South Africa, and we will continue to be affected as long as that situation continues. Account must also be taken of our position of solidarity toward SWAPO.

The problem of Namibia's decolonization returned to the United Nations in May 1983. It must be remembered that Namibia is a territory under UN trusteeship, which implies that all member countries have direct responsibility for their independence. A path emerged from that date in the framework of negotiations which were entrusted to the UN secretary general. When the Namibian affair was exhausted, the Angolan Government proposed the convocation of a Security Council session to examine a point which directly affects it — the occupation of part of its territory by South African troops. At that time, a letter from the South African Foreign Ministry dated 15 December arrived proposing a military withdrawal, provided the Angolan forces, SWAPO, and the Cubans did not take advantage of the situation that that would create.

In our view the aim of that letter was to prevent the Security Council from meeting. We waited for the meeting to be held and to adopt its resolution. After thwarting that maneuver, our president sent a message to the UN secretary general on 31 December, taking the Pretoria regime's proposal into consideration on the basis of the following principles: that the secretary general should obtain SWAPO's agreement for South Africa to promise to withdraw its troops, and that UN Resolution 435 (which establishes the methods by which Namibia should gain independence — *LIBERATION* editor's note) should be implemented in the 2 weeks following the expiration of the truce. It was then that U.S. diplomatic activity and pressure on South Africa for a tripartite meeting began. It was Angola's convening of the Security Council that sparked off that process. Significant steps have now been taken thanks to Angolan diplomacy's clear stance.

LIBERATION: What guarantees do you have that the current initiative is serious?

Paulo Jorge: Several factors have contributed to this feeling of hope which is beginning to emerge:

1. The international community is tired and frustrated with the delay in solving the Namibian problem;

2. The international community is beginning to be cognizant of the sacrifices the Angolan people have made to secure Namibia's independence;

3. It must not be forgotten that this is an U.S. election year, and that the Reagan administration stands to gain from presenting a positive element in the disastrous U.S. foreign policy;

4. South Africa's own internal situation is deteriorating, on the one hand with the ANC's political and military actions, and on the other as a result of the growing internal conflicts and the fact that the South African Government is finally realizing that its policy of aggression against Angola and Mozambique and the illegal occupation of Namibia are costing it a great deal of money. We are taking all these factors into consideration in forming the view that things could develop favorably. In our direct talks with the United States, we demanded guarantees that South Africa will keep its promises. We did so to enable Angola to make the appropriate provisions if we find sufficient sincerity on the other side to get to serious matters.

LIBERATION: Have the South Africans promised to implement UN Resolution 435?

Paulo Jorge: The Pretoria regime has said on several occasions that Resolution 435 should be respected. However, it has hitherto made every effort to avoid implementing it, constantly finding excuses. As a result of the actions taken by the UN secretary general since May 1983, South Africa has increasingly been forced to adopt clear and responsible positions. The fact that SWAPO Chairman Sam Nujoma says he is prepared to have direct negotiations with the Pretoria regime on a cease-fire — the first stage of Resolution 435 — and that Pretoria has already appointed Namibia's chief administrator to negotiate with SWAPO, makes us foresee that, once the military withdrawal has been completed, the right conditions will have been achieved for implementing Resolution 435.

LIBERATION: Is the problem of South African support for the UNITA rebels also under discussion?

Paulo Jorge: The problem was raised during the Lusaka meeting, but was not discussed in detail for a very simple reason: The military withdrawal must end activities against Angola from Namibian territory. That means South Africa must take a stance on the UNITA puppets. In addition, it would not be rational or legitimate for that military withdrawal to entail a degree of restriction for SWAPO with respect to its own country and for the other side not to do likewise. It was quite simply in that framework that the problem was raised. But it will be analyzed a little later within the Angolan-South African joint commission.

LIBERATION: Does the Angolan Government envisage political overtures toward UNITA in the present climate of negotiations?

Paulo Jorge: We have no intention of doing that. Our position has been clear for a long time. There will be no meeting, conciliation, or any such thing. That is a position which has already been defined by the Central Committee and Government.

LIBERATION: When will the Angolan Government consider conditions propitious for envisaging the departure of Cuban troops deployed in Angola?

Paulo Jorge: The Angolan Government thinks there is already a matter of principle. Our position was clearly defined in the Angolan-Cuban joint declaration of 4 February 1982. When the cease-fire process between SWAPO and Pretoria starts, in other words when implementation of Resolution 435 -- a resolution which has four essential aspects (cease-fire, gradual reduction of South African forces to 1,500 men, participation by UN forces, and free and just elections) -- begins, we think the possibility of an aggression or armed invasion will be reduced. And at that time, we will be able to take the sovereign decision, with the Cuban Government, to draw up a new program of the gradual withdrawal of Cuban troops. This principled position is already established.

LIBERATION: Is it possible to envisage U.S. recognition of the People's Republic of Angola?

Paulo Jorge: Recognition of the People's Republic of Angola, and hence a normalization of relations between the United States and Angola, rests with the American camp. It is the Americans who are raising obstacles. They must overcome them.

LIBERATION: We are now witnessing Pik Botha holding discussions with Mozambique and Angola. Is South Africa no longer the devil?

Paulo Jorge: I don't know whether we can already conclude that South Africa is no longer the devil at this stage. It still has to prove that that is the case.

Fifth Armed Forces Financial Seminar Closes

MB010919 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The fifth seminar of the Armed Forces financial organizations, which primarily dealt with the assessment of activities carried out between 1982 and 1983, and overcoming the difficulties faced in carrying them out, as well as planning activities for 1984, ended in Luanda yesterday. The seminar was held under the theme "let us strengthen organization and the efficiency of the finance organs in the year of defense and production." The participants also attended a number of conferences dealing with rules on military wages, salary scales, premiums, and allowances.

In his closing speech, Major (Inocencio de Almeida), head of the Directorate of Finance, first dealt with the present situation in the south of the country, which is characterized by the South African aggression, and then stressed that the progress achieved in the financial field as a whole is very significant. Maj (Inocencio) also said that it is necessary to guarantee the wages of our combatants in order to heighten morale and fighting spirit. Military discipline is another aspect that combatants must give special attention to within the framework of the MPLA-Labor Party guidelines, Maj (Inocencio) added.

During the closing session, a number of officers who distinguished themselves received encouragement.

The closing session was attended by military attorney Lieutenant Colonel (Kafussi), Army officers, and guests.

UNITA Captures Britons, Others in Kanfunfo Attack

MB010552 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Three foreign experts were killed and 62 others kidnapped during an attack by UNITA puppets on the mining town of Kanfunfo in Lunda Norte Province. The experts killed were two Filipinos and one Cape Verdian. The kidnapped include Portuguese, Filipinos, and British nationals. In their attack, the puppets destroyed industrial installations, the water pump engine, and fuel depot.

Dos Santos Congratulates New CPSU Chief

MB010721 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party, has sent a message to Konstantin Chernenko, new general secretary of the CPSU, congratulating him on his election to the post. Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos reiterated his faith in the principles that guide the Leninist policy of the CPSU and in the continued fight for disarmament in favor of peace and the peaceful coexistence of the peoples.

Chairman Jose Eduardo dos Santos also recalled the late Chairman Yuriy Andropov, and stressed his role in the leadership of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party as an unequivocal example of his dedication and ability. He also expressed hopes that relations between Angola and the Soviet Union would be increasingly strengthened in the common struggle against imperialism.

LESOTHO

BNP Leader Rejects New Democratic Alliance

MB291209 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The secretary general of the ruling Basotho National Party [BNP], the Honorable V.M. Makhele, says that the BNP totally rejects the so-called Democratic Alliance by political dissidents in Lesotho.

Speaking in a radio broadcast this morning, Mr Makhele said that the announcement of the formation of an alliance which was made in the South African media came as a shock, but not as a

surprise, because there had been indications for a long time that a new political party would be formed.

The minister said: What is particularly shocking is that the formation of the so-called Democratic Alliance was announced by the South African media, which indicated that the South African Government is involved. Mr Makhele stated that it was earlier reported that Mr C.D. Molapo led visits to Pretoria, where they held talks with the South African foreign minister, Mr Pik Botha. Among the topics they discussed was the formation of an alliance which would be sponsored by South Africa.

The minister revealed that Mr Botha is reported to have told Lesotho's political dissidents that South Africa will not assist them unless they form an alliance. Today an alliance, which is sponsored, monitored, and directed from Pretoria, has been formed.

The minister said that the so-called Democratic Alliance will not be acceptable to the Basotho because it has its roots in South Africa.

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Cites Talks With RSA, Flood Relief

MB291306 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] President Samora Machel has said the government's talks with South Africa are not just aimed at securing peace in Mozambique, but peace in the whole of southern Africa. The president was speaking in Maputo yesterday when he toured the site of the International Trade Fair, where gifts from the people of the capital are being organized for distribution to flood victims. He said violence came to southern Africa with the arrival of the European colonialists, and the region had not really known peace since then.

President Samora also praised the people of Maputo for their generosity in donating goods and money for the flood victims, and thanked everyone who took part in the campaign. He said the goods should be distributed to those left desolate by the floods as soon as possible. The president was accompanied by the Frelimo Party secretary for Maputo City, Jorge Rebelo, and Internal Trade Minister Aranda da Silva.

Nonaggression Accord Meeting in RSA 2 Mar

MB010733 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Government delegations from Mozambique and South Africa will meet in Cape Town tomorrow. This meeting follows the 20 February meeting in Maputo. Last Monday, the Council of Ministers of Mozambique approved the principles of a draft accord on nonaggression with South Africa. The Mozambique delegation visiting Cape Town carries a written draft of the nonaggression accord, and has been empowered to conclude the negotiations. The Mozambique delegation will be headed by Major General Jacinto Veloso, minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs. It will also include Colonel Oscar Monteiro, minister of justice; Major General Salesio Nalyambipano, deputy minister of defense; Teodato Hunguana, second deputy minister of the interior; and high-ranking foreign affairs, security, defense, and presidency officials.

Roelof Botha, the South African foreign affairs minister, will head the South African delegation. During the last meeting in Maputo, President Samora Machel received the three ministers in the South African delegation. Roelof Botha and Louis le Grange, minister of law and order, and Magnus Malan, minister of defense, transmitted a message from Pieter Botha, South Africa's prime minister, to the Mozambique president.

Message From Guinea-Bissau Leader on RSA Talks

MB010825 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 1 March 84

[Text] Joao Bernardo Vieira, the secretary general of PAIGC and president of the revolutionary council of Guinea-Bissau, has sent a message to President Samora Machel regarding the talks between Mozambique and South Africa. In the message, Joao Bernardo Vieira, who is also chairman of the five Portuguese-speaking African countries, said that he has been following with great interest the evolution of talks between the People's Republic of Mozambique and South Africa, and is happy with the successes achieved thus far.

He expressed the hope that the peace prospects in this tense region of Africa would lead to new victories over backwardness, and for peace and social progress. We hail the pragmatic and correct policy of the Frelimo Party and the Mozambique Government, which has led this vital and important situation for those struggling for peace, development, and social justice in Africa, President Bernardo Vieira said. He also said the PAIGC and the government of Guinea-Bissau, as in the past, and faithful to their policy of thought and action, reiterate their total solidarity with the Mozambique people, their vanguard Frelimo Party, their government, and indisputable leader, President Samora Machel, for his clear-sightedness and political courage in serving the peoples of Mozambique and Africa.

Machel Receives Nigerian Envoy, Hails Government

MB291309 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Mozambique has officially recognized the new regime in Nigeria which seized power in a military coup on 31 December last year. President Samora Machel yesterday received the Nigerian ambassador to Maputo, Lanil Metteden, and told him that Mozambique had followed attentively the positive steps taken by the Nigerian Government in both internal and international affairs. Ambassador Metteden delivered to President Samora a message from the Nigerian head of state, Muhammadu Buhari.

Cooperation Commission With Zambia Ends Session

MB291744 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The proceedings of the seventh session of the Mozambique-Zambia joint cooperation commission ended in Maputo today with the signing of the final report on the meeting. The documents signed by the heads of the two delegations analyzed the steps made toward implementing what had previously been agreed upon in the field of bilateral cooperation. The documents also noted activities which will have to be carried out in future.

Speaking after the signing ceremony, Jose Carlos Lobo, Mozambique minister of mineral resources, and Henry Meebelo, Zambian minister of state for national commission for development planning, emphasized the need to jointly implement the decisions which have been taken.

The two ministers led their respective delegations to the talks. The main areas of cooperation between Mozambique and Zambia are transport and communications, post and telecommunications, agriculture, trade, and other areas dealing with social matters. The seventh session of the joint commission agreed that mineral resources constitute a new field of cooperation. However, details on what has been accomplished and what is planned were not revealed to the news media.

The Zambian delegation returned home early this afternoon.

New Regulation Requires Internal Travel Pass

MB291933 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 29 Feb 84

["Circular letter" from the Central Operational Command of the Ministry of the Interior, signed in Maputo on 10 January, issued in Maputo on 29 February]

[Text] Circular letter No 1-84: Regulation on the Movement of People. In order to carry out measures adopted by the Ministerial Directive of 15 June 1983 on the evacuation of people from towns, and in accordance with Article 9 of that directive on controlling the movement of people, the Ministry of the Interior, using the power conferred on it by that directive, has decided the following:

Article 1. All national and foreign citizens must present a travel pass [guia de marcha] when requested when traveling outside the political and administrative area in which they reside.

Article 2. The issuance of travel passes will be performed exclusively by the political and administrative bodies of the areas of residence or by state administrative bodies.

Article 3. The travel pass issued must indicate:

A. Name;

B. Date and place of birth;

C. Current profession;

D. Type and number of the travel pass;

E. Place of origin;

F. Destination;

G. Residence on arrival;

H. Proposed length of stay;

I. Reason for travel.

Article 4. After arriving at his destination, the traveler must present himself within 48 hours to the headquarters of the political and administrative body of the area in which he is going to stay. When reporting, the traveler must be accompanied by a member of the family he is visiting. The host will present his own residence and identity cards.

Article 5. If there is no objection, the visitor will be given a permit to stay for the period requested on the travel card.

If the person is not given a permit to stay, he will have to return to his place of origin within 24 hours.

Article 6. Any national or foreign citizen who entertains a guest or a visitor must report this fact within 48 hours to the head of his residential area.

Article 7. In case of a change of residence, the person must report this change within 48 hours to the political and administrative body of the residential area which he is leaving. Within the same period after arrival, he must report to the administrative body of his new place of residence.

Article 8. Nonpresentation of a travel pass when requested will prevent a person from traveling from one political and administrative area to another. Travel in towns organized in urban districts is exempted from the regulations laid down in the present circular letter.

Article 9. Violations of regulations laid down in the present circular letter will be dealt with in accordance with the measures provided for in the 15 June 1983 directive.

Article 10. People exempted from the current regulation are:

A. Members of the diplomatic corps accredited to the People's Republic of Mozambique and their families;

B. Foreign consular agents and their families;

C. Technical and administrative personnel of foreign missions provided the country they belong to is recognized by and accredited to the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Maputo, 10 January 1984. The minister of the interior [Signed] Lieutenant General Armando Emilio Guebuza.

Agreement on Beira-Machipanda Pipeline Signed

MB291345 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The Mozambique Government and the Mozambique-Zimbabwe pipeline company signed in Maputo yesterday a concession agreement for the Beira-Machipanda pipeline. The agreement was signed by Rui Baltazar, the minister of finance, and Tiny Rowland, director of the Lonrho Company. The Mozambique delegation also included Alcantara Santos, the minister of ports, railways, and shipping, and Joao Coutinho, the national budget director.

Sofala Leader Marcelino dos Santos Praises FPLM

MB291232 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] We shall not permit the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the launching of the armed struggle with armed bandits in our country. We will drive them away and completely purge them, Major General Marcelino dos Santos, leader of Sofala Province said.

In a meeting with the FPLM stationed at Maringue during his recent working visit to that district of Sofala Province, Marcelino dos Santos praised our forces stationed there for the victories which caused heavy losses to the enemy and the subsequent recapture of the district headquarters. The leader of Sofala Province emphasized on the occasion that Maringue [words indistinct].

MNR Kills 80 Eduardo Mondlane Villagers

AB011118 Paris AFP in English 0946 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Maputo, Mar 1 (AFP) — Rebels of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) killed som 80 people in a communal village 30 kilometres (20 miles) north of here last month, an informed source said here today.

The attack on the Eduardo Mondlane village near Marracuene on February 18 has not been announced officially, but government sources said that 11 people had been killed.

However, a doctor at Maputo's Central Hospital who had treated villagers with bayonet wounds, said that they had told him about 80 people had been killed, including six of the attackers. "The bandits forced the villagers into their huts, then set fire to them," the doctor said.

The MNR, which is South African-backed, operates in most of Mozambique's provinces. It has been blamed for a number of recent atrocities, including the killing of some 90 civilians in attacks on two buses and a train since December.

Under a non-aggression pact currently being negotiated between Maputo and Pretoria, South Africa would reportedly end its support for the MNR in exchange for Mozambique curbs on activities of the anti-apartheid African National Congress.

NAMIBIA

Monitoring Group Advised of SWAPO Activity

MB011059 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1053 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Excerpt] Windhoek, March 1, (SAPA) — The South African component of the Joint Monitoring Commission has been notified of the latest SWAPO acts of aggression and insurgency, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today. The South African/Angolan JMC meets in Cuvelai today to begin final monitoring of a South African military disengagement in southern Angola.

A total of 23 SWAPO insurgents were killed in security force actions in central and eastern Owanbo at the weekend. They were members of a group of 200 insurgents who crossed into SWA/Namibia from southern Angola after South Africa and Angola had reached agreement in Lusaka on the disengagement of forces in southern Angola. The remainder of the SWAPO inflitrators have broken up into smaller groups and security forces are tracking the nine insurgents who have penetrated the commercial farming district of Tsumeb.

Security Forces Pursue SWAPO Insurgents

MB011031 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1028 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Windhoek, March 1, (SAPA) — Security forces in SWA/Namibia have traced a group of nine SWAPO insurgents to two farms in the Tsumeb District, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today. The farms are named "Operette" and "Geluk."

Of the 200 SWAPO insurgents known to have crossed the SWA/Namibian border from Angola, 23 were shot and killed by security forces in central and eastern Owambo at the weekend. The rest have formed smaller groups, and "because of prevailing weather conditions, tracking has become difficult," the SWATF said in a statement.

Last Thursday, SWAPO insurgents bombarded Ondangwa air strip with mortars. But the long-distance bombardment was unsuccessful and no damage had been caused to the runway or the buildings, the SWATF said.

Tracking in SWA/Namibia's northern farm districts has become difficult because of good rains in the area in the past few weeks.

The SWATF said security forces were conducting follow-up operations against the nine insurgents who had crossed the "red-line" demarcating the boundary between the communal land areas of Owambo and Kavango, and the northern commercial farming districts of Tsumed and Grootfontein.

Last Wednesday, a group of SWAPO insurgents tried unsuccessfully to blow up the main road at Okatope in northern SWA/Namibia.

In another incident in the past week, two civilians died in a landmine blast while drawing water in central Owambo last Thursday. The South African Railways police are also investigating two acts of sabotage of the railways network in northern SWA/Namibia. The rail lines near Outjo and Tsumeb were damaged by explosives devices on February 19 and 27, respectively. "Although both incidents are thought to be the work of SWAPO terrorists, no evidence is available that the acts were committed by the 200 terrorists who are known to have already infiltrated Owambo," the SWATF said.

From the latest actions of SWAPO, "it is quite obvious that the security forces are not the prime target, but as in the past infrastructure and civilians are the prime targets."

British Citizen Detained for Security Reasons
MB291954 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1945 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 29, (SAPA) — Police in Windhoek have detained a British subject, Mr Richard Roberts, in terms of security legislation in SWA/Namibia, a police spokesman said tonight. "A matter concerning state security is being investigated," the spokesman said.

It was the first time that a foreign national had been taken into custody in terms of SWA/Namibia's Security Proclamation AG 9, legal sources said in Windhoek.

Mr Roberts is the author of a book entitled "The Rossing File," which gives details of the operations of the Rossing Uranium Mine, one of the world's biggest.

Mr Roberts wife, Mrs Maria Roberts, was said to live in New York, and was associated with the United Nations Council for Namibia, while Mr Roberts was reportedly a member of the Anti-Namibian Nuclear Campaign Organisation (ANNUC).

The police spokesman declined to disclose details of the detention, but other sources said Mr Roberts had visited the Rossing Uranium Mine at Swakopmund two weeks ago. He allegedly took certain photographs and obtained a number of documents said to be classified.

Information concerning uranium in SWA/Namibia and South Africa is proscribed by the Atomic Energy Act and the Protection of Information Act.

Sources acquainted with Mrs Roberts had telephoned attorneys in Windhoek a number of days ago saying her husband had been arrested on suspicion of a different charge concerning the late return of a rented car for which he had paid with a widely-used international credit card where he had an open account. The Car Rental Company was said to have apologised to Mr Roberts, and charges against him were dropped in the Windhoek Magistrates Court today, but he was detained in terms of Security Proclamation AG 9 as he left the courtroom.

The various embassies have been informed of the detention, a legal source reported.

Mr Roberts book, "The Rossing File" is banned in both South Africa and SWA/Namibia.

Former SWAPO Leader Moved to Namibian Prison
MB291725 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The former SWAPO leader, Toivo Ja Toivo, and four other former SWAPO members have been transferred from Robben Island to a prison in South-West Africa. The minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, announced in Cape Town that the men were transferred today. Mr Coetsee said the decision to transfer Ja Toivo and the other SWAPO detainees to a prison in South-West Africa had been taken after consultations with the administrator general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk. Mr Coetsee said there were a few other prisoners from South-West Africa that were still on Robben Island. He said they would be transferred in due course.

Bomb Blast on Rail Line; SWAPO Link Inferred
MB010910 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0900 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Windhoek, March 1, (SAPA) — Rail traffic between Otavi and Tsumeb in north-central SWA/Namibia has returned to normal after a bomb blast on the rail line on Monday night, the systems manager of the S.A. Transport Services in the territory, Mr Willine Strauss, said in Windhoek today. There were no casualties, and the explosion caused little damage. The blast was the second sabotage incident in 10 days in north-central SWA/Namibia. On February 18, a bomb explosion damaged the Heuninberg rail siding between Otavia and Tsumed. There were no injuries.

On February 16, South Africa and Angola reached accord in Lusaka on the disengagement of forces in southern Angola. But the South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, announced last week that about 800 SWAPO insurgents, taking advantage of the situation, were making their way towards SWA/Namibia. Some have slipped into the territory and are reported to be "bomb experts."

The South African-Angolan Joint Monitoring Commission meets in the southern Angolan town of Cuvelai today to begin final monitoring operations.

SOUTH AFRICA

Joint Commission To Meet on Disengagement
MB010634 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The joint commission of South Africa and Angola will start supervising the disengagement of forces in southern Angola today. The commission will met at Cuvelai, in southern Angola. The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, earlier this week announced that the commission would start implementing the Lusaka agreement on the disengagement of forces. The joint

commission met American observers at Cuvelai on Saturday after the South African and Angolan Governments came to an agreement on the joint commission in Lusaka on 16 February.

Our political correspondent reports that an investigation into the possible violation of assurances given will also start today. The southerly movement of about 800 SWAPO terrorists, a large number of which have already crossed the border, is a major cause for concern for the South African Government at the moment, because it could upset the peace initiative. Urgent messages have been sent to Angola, as well as the United States, by the government. Mr Pik Botha has made it clear that the South African Security Forces will not tolerate any insurgency by SWAPO, and that South Africa retains the right to act against such action.

Angola Joint Commission Outlines Tasks
MB011211 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] The Department of Foreign Affairs announced details of the meeting today of the joint commission of South Africa and Angola. The commission that met at Cuvelai, in southern Angola, will be supervising and monitoring the disengagement of forces in southern Angola. It was reported that the commission would move southwards with South African forces until the town of Oshikango, on the border between Angola and SWA, was reached.

A senior spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said the withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola in terms of the Lusaka agreement would take about 30 days. The commission's activities at Cuvelai would last a week, after which it would travel to Mupa, Evali, Onjiwa, and eventually to Oshikango. South Africa and Angola would be represented each day by five members of the commission, plus a support force of 300 soldiers each.

The commission's immediate task would be to investigate allegations of violations of the Lusaka agreement. A report on the commission's findings would then be compiled and presented to the Governments of South Africa and Angola. The Department of Foreign Affairs said the commission could continue with its monitoring function after the 30 days had lapsed. Provision had been made for such an event.

The spokesman said that the role of the UNITA Movement during the coming days was an internal matter. It would have to be solved by the Government of Angola.

Tourism Delegation Visits Pretoria for Talks
MB291815 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The under secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Mines, and Tourism, Mr J.B.S. Vilakati, leading a 3-man Swazi delegation, is in Pretoria, South Africa, to discuss new approaches to promote tourism in Swaziland, South Africa, and Malawi. In an interview, the principal secretary in that ministry, Mr Percy Mngomezulu, has said Mr Vilakati and his delegation left on Monday for a meeting which started yesterday and finishes today. The principal secretary said the last annual general meeting of the three countries that make up SARTOC [Southern African Regional Tourism Council] was held in Swaziland in December 1983. Mr Mngomezulu said the current meeting is a follow up of the meeting held in Swaziland. He said the Pretoria meeting is a subcommittee one which was proposed to be held early in 1984 to be hosted by South Africa.

Air Force Chief Hails Fighter Control System
MB291823 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The retiring chief of the South African Air Force, Lieutenant General Mike Muller, says good progress has been made with the establishment of a modern automatic command and control system for communication and information during operations with fighter aircraft. Gen Muller made this announcement when he handed the command of the Air Force to his successor during a parade at Voortrekkerhoogte this afternoon.

Gen Muller will be succeeded by the chief director, operations,of the Defense Force, Major General Denis Earp. Gen Muller will succeed Lieutenant General Dutton as South Africa's ambassador to Chile.

Gen Muller said considerable progress had been made lately to make fighter aircraft more effective in the operational area. Hesaid although several aircraft had been hit by antiaircraft and SAM missiles, no casualties had been suffered.

Gen Muller also referred to the development of new fighting tactics and the development and improvement of weaponry and electronic warfare. Twenty-five Air Force banners were also displayed at an Air Force parade for the first time. The new flight caps were also worn at the parade for the first time.

Power Station Explosion; Sabotage Possible
MB010915 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0908 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Durban, March 1, (SAPA) — The ESCOM power station at Mandini in Natal was last night damaged by an explosion, and police today confirmed they were investigating a case of sabotage. A spokesman for the Police Public Relations Division in Pretoria said the explosion took place at 10:35 pm, but there were no injuries. Mandini lies between Durban and Richards Bay. He said the explosion "did not cause extensive damages," but the power supply to Mandini and surrounding areas was cut off. It is expected to be restored later today.

Police are investigating the nature of the explosive device used. It is not known if there is a link between last night's explosion and one last week at the ESCOM power station at Georgedale, near Pietermaritzburg.

ZAMBIA

Zairean Official Calls for Stronger Ties

MB010734 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Mar 84

[Text] Zairean consul general, Mr (Kasangala Dedetemo), has called for further strengthening of political and security ties between Zaire and Zambia. Mr (Dedetemo) said such a move would bring about better understanding between the peoples of the two countries. He said this when he met Luanshya District political secretary, Mr (Godfried Malipilo), at the civic center during his familiarization tour of Luanshya. Mr (Dedetemo) paid tribute to the Zambian Government for the hospitality it accorded to Zaireans living in the country.

ZIMBABWE

Muzenda: Civil Servants Cannot Be Apolitical

MB291843 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] The deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda, says public servants cannot remain apolitical in the present realities in the country. Addressing the Public Service Club in Harare this evening, Comrade Muzenda said the government is the people, and civil servants cannot, therefore, remove themselves from the masses. He said they cannot remain unaware of the people's political direction and serve the people's interest at the same time. He said the government wants to create a situation whereby the masses can achieve considerable control over the means of production, and a key instrument in bringing this about are the public servants.

The deputy prime minister said UDI [Unilateral Declaration of Independence] was sustained by politically motivated public servants. He said any ministry, parastatal, or other establishment without politically conscious and mature [words indistinct] management cannot effectively carry out government policy. Comrade Muzenda said public servants are expected to understand and commit themselves to the spirit and letter of government political and ideological pronouncements. He said this will enable them to help formulate policy; interpret, implement, and supervise it; and meaningfully relate to the people, who are partners in Zimbabwe's human and material development.

Four Acquitted Nkomo Supporters Redetained

MB292015 Umtata Capital Radio in English 2000 GMT 29 Feb 84

[Text] Four men who have been acquitted on charges of plotting to assassinate the Zimbabwean prime minister have reportedly been redetained. That is according to their lawyer who refused to give further details. The four were cleared in the Harare High Court yesterday after the state withdrew its case because of lack of evidence. They were part of a group of 10 men who have been charged with plotting to assassinate Robert Mugabe in June 1982 when armed men fired at the prime minister's official residence. The trial of the six remaining men is continuing in the Harare High Court. All are officially said to be supporters of Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU Party.